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The Outlook

February 27, 1924

Troubled Oil

SECRETARY DENBY'S resignation as head of the Navy Department is a relief alike to the President and to the country.

No one has offered any evidence against Mr. Denby's integrity; but against his judgment and capacity public opinion has rendered an unmistakable verdict. If at the outset he had offered his resignation publicly, declaring that it was evident that his conception of the policy with regard to the oil lands was not that of the Administration, he would have saved himself, his party, and his country from much chagrin. Instead of doing that he assumed an attitude of defiance. The action of the Senate in calling upon the President to request Secretary Denby's resignation has not only added to the confusion of the public mind upon the subject, but has left Secretary Denby in the position of retiring under fire.

Mr. Denby has been a victim partly of his own blindness, and partly of circumstances. He did not see the implication of his action in transferring to the Interior Department virtual control of the naval oil lands; but, having done so, he could hardly have foreseen that this action would be brought to public attention first in a scandal involving corruption.

When the President made his first announcement that he would search out this matter and bring the guilty to justice, we stated that it was not sufficient that public servants should be merely free from corruption; we expressed the hope that the President would make it clear to the country that he proposed, not only to punish the guilty and protect the Nation's property, but also to turn out those who have not been faithful and wise trustees. The President has been hampered in his action by the effort of Congress to assume the functions of the Executive. Now, with the resignation of Secretary Denby, we hope the President will forestall further assumptions of Executive authority by Congress.

Aside from the examination of Mr. Vanderlip, developments in the oil lease scandal have tended to increase public distrust of the management of National resources.

For example, the testimony of Mr. Shaffer, owner of several newspapers in the Middle West, indicates that responsible officials in Washington had, to say the least, a loose view of their trusteeship. Mr. Shaffer made application for certain oil acreage, and got the promise of it from Secretary Fall. Moreover, he got money from Mr. Sinclair, to whom the Teapot Dome reservation was granted, though he had performed no services whatever for Mr. Sinclair's companies. To those who cannot believe that a man of his high reputation would sell the influence of his newspapers the facts to which he testified are as yet unexplained. It is not possible at this time to give a coherent story of the developments of the investigation because sufficient facts are not yet ascertained to make the fragmentary revelations themselves coherent.

In place of Mr. Gregory, whose name the President withdrew because of his connection with the oil cases, the name of ex-Senator Pomerene, of Ohio, was submitted to the Senate as counsel for the Government in the oil lease cases. The appointment was confirmed in spite of some opposition. In place of Mr. Strawn, whose connections also made him unavailable, Owen Roberts, of Philadelphia, was appointed with the Senate's approval.

Broadcasting Gossip

CARELESS and malicious gossip is one of the gravest faults of democracy. Where the belief prevails that every one is as good as everybody else, it is easy for some people to believe that all are as bad as the worst. Some are tempted in a democracy to cultivate a sense of their own equality with others by dragging the names of the eminent down to a level of disrepute.

From such gossip every eminent man is likely to suffer and to it every President has been subject.

Mr. Frank A. Vanderlip's defense that he gave public currency to such gossip about President Harding in order to bring it into the open where it could be disproved did not seem even plausible to the members of the Senatorial committee who questioned him about this.

In a speech at Ossining, New York, Mr. Vanderlip said:

> A certain Marion newspaper sold for $550,000 when it was well known to every one that it was not worth half that sum. Two young men of no financial standing purchased it. Everybody in Washington, including the newspaper correspondents, knows this. Where did the money come from? Where did it go to? These are matters of public interest. The last Administration stands challenged.

This was an obvious reflection upon the propriety of President Harding's sale of his newspaper property.

Mr. Vanderlip accused the Senatorial committee of failing to go further than it did in investigating Secretary Fall "because Fall was ready to 'peach,' and what he would have said would have gone into high places."

Called before the Senatorial committee investigating the oil scandals, Mr. Vanderlip acknowledged that he had no information as to the facts, and his accusation against the committee he retracted when he was told that the reason for the stopping of the examination of Mr. Fall was that further examination would have granted him immunity from prosecution.

It has turned out that Mr. Vanderlip was mistaken as to the price paid for the paper and as to the purchasers' financial standing. What he declared that everybody knew has been proved to be false.

Mr. Vanderlip's purpose was undoubtedly to help rouse public opinion against known evils; but he made what was worse than a blunder in trying to rouse indignation by giving currency to the sort of gossip that is robbery of others' reputations.

Keeping Their Heads

PUBLIC OPINION has responded wholesomely to the oil scandal. The American people want the Senate to probe that scandal to the bottom. They demand the exposure of those in political and business life who use high office or business connections treacherously.

Most Americans, however, are keeping

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their heads. They are not stampeded. They have not jumped to the conclusion that all business and all politics are corrupt.

The conversation which The Outlook's Industrial Correspondent had with a laborer in one of the New York subways exemplifies what we believe to be the prevailing attitude. In substance this wage-earner, who had come from work on the excavation for a skyscraper, expressed his opinion as follows:

> Tables are now turned. Labor has been accustomed to having an entire membership of several million condemned for the shortcomings of one or two who have proved unfaithful to the trust imposed in them. So we are not stampeded on the oil scandal. When one or two labor leaders proved faithless, the public shouted, "There you are. That's what labor does." Now labor realizes—at least the men who work on the job with me—that the entire oil scandal involves only an insignificant number when compared with the thousands of business men and men in political office who are honest. As far as I am concerned, and those who are working on the job with me, we feel that it would be the height of folly on the part of labor to impugn thousands of honest leaders of American business and hundreds of honest men representing the Nation in State Legislatures and Congress for the unfortunate shortcomings of two or three overnight oil millionaires, and one or two officials that were not big enough to play fair with those who placed their trust in them.

From the White House to the farm and the factory and throughout the country this view, we believe, prevails.

Congress Should Foot the Bill

If the tax fight in Congress continues with the acerbity which characterizes it now, it appears probable that Congress will adjourn without enacting the Tax Bill.

The taxpayers, and that means all the people, are entitled to relief from the burdens of taxation. If they do not get that relief, it will be due to the politicians who are trying to make political issues out of appeals to class prejudices.

Four plans are at present under consideration—the Administration or Mellon plan, which provides for a surtax rate of twenty-five per cent; the Longworth-Greene compromise plan, with a surtax rate of thirty-five per cent; the Democratic or Garner plan, with a surtax rate of forty-four per cent; and the Progressive or Frear plan, in which the surtax rate is fifty per cent.

It has become certain that many Republicans in the House, the number of whom is estimated at from thirty to fifty, will not support the Mellon plan in its original form. On the other hand, it is known that some Democrats, perhaps half a dozen, will not support the Garner plan. The defection from the Democratic ranks is not sufficient, however, to give any real help to the Mellon plan. But there comes just here an element of uncertainty. How many Democrats are there who would prefer a surtax rate somewhere between the forty-four per cent of the Garner plan and the twenty-five per cent of the Mellon plan? On the answer to this question depends the success of the Republican compromise plan.

The progressive and insurgent adherents of the Frear plan have no hope of enacting their bill into law. They will vote for the Garner plan as nearer to their liking than either of the others. If, however, there should be any considerable shifting of Democrats to the so-called Longworth-Greene compromise plan, the Frear adherents might resent it by standing steadily by their own plan. That would further decrease the support of the Garner plan to the point where the compromise plan might win. That applies to the House.

Either the Garner or the compromise plan as it might be enacted in the House would find rough sledding in the Senate and, if passed, would be so modified as to require a great deal of ironing out in conference and resubmission to the House.

There stand in the way of a new tax law, too, the objections of the President to any except the Mellon plan. The indications are that he would veto a law based on the Garner plan, and it is an open question whether he would sign a law growing out of the thirty-five per cent compromise plan.

There is the further complication of a possible bonus "rider" attached to the Tax Bill. The bonus advocates can probably push the issue to a successful conclusion in connection with the Tax Bill if they elect to try it.

There is no substantial doubt that President Coolidge would veto any tax law containing a bonus provision, no matter what else it might contain.

For the first time a tax law is to be written from the floor rather than in committee. The process is likely to be a long one. While the surtax is the only feature of any one of the bills that is now receiving much consideration, the other provisions must be made to fit the surtax provision.

All of these things make for delay, for many-sided wrangling, and not improbably for ultimate disagreement.

What President Coolidge has said about taxation ought to be read and reread throughout the country. It is stated so simply anybody can understand it. If disagreement is the final outcome of the attempt to secure tax reduction, thus denying to the people the relief due them, next election day ought to be made a day of reckoning for demagogic and partisan politicians.

Pistols and Prohibition

The accidental shooting of Senator Greene, of Vermont, in a pistol battle between prohibition enforcement officers and supposed "moonshiners" will add to the furor of discussion, even to the intensity of divergent views, as to what can be done with the Eighteenth Amendment.

Senator Greene was strolling with his wife, in the early evening, down Pennsylvania Avenue, the thoroughfare that connects the Capitol and the White House, the widest and most famous of Washington streets. Before they were fairly out of the shadow of the Capitol dome and when they were almost under the eaves of the buildings that house the law courts of the District of Columbia, a patter of pistol shots rang down an alleyway, and Senator Greene fell to the sidewalk with a bullet wound in his skull.

Officers of the prohibition enforcement staff were following a trail which they thought would lead them to the cache of a petty bootlegger. Instead of the little store of half-pint bottles which they expected to find, they ran upon a great copper still in process of unloading from a motor truck into a basement. The officers were as much surprised as the custodians of the illicit still. Both parties were doubtless panicky and a bit "jerky in the trigger fingers." One side or the other opened fire, and the other replied in kind. The truck, with the still aboard, roared down the alley and escaped. The officers jotted down the number of a license tag. That, with the wounding of a United States Senator, constituted the total results of the accidental and abortive raid.

This was the second pitched battle

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Parties of Suspicion

(Romeo and Juliet, Act V, Scene 3)

Kuhn in the Indianapolis News

Famous Last Words

From H. M. Fosdick, Indianapolis, Ind.

Marcus in the New York Times

"You Splash Me—I Splash You"

From Louise Thompson, Scarsdale, N. Y.

Cassel in the New York Evening World

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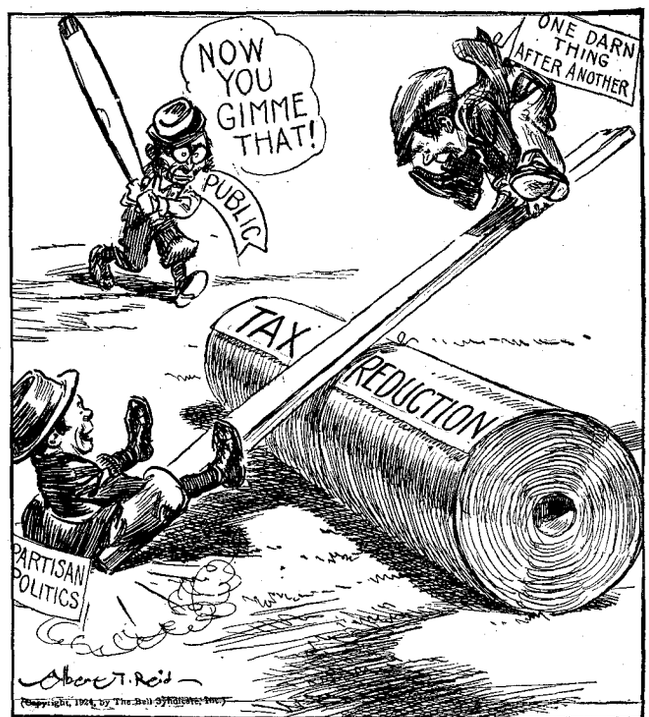
Throw It!

From Marguerite Rockwell, Baltimore, Md.

Reid for The Bell Syndicate, Inc.



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They've Been Holding That Long Enough

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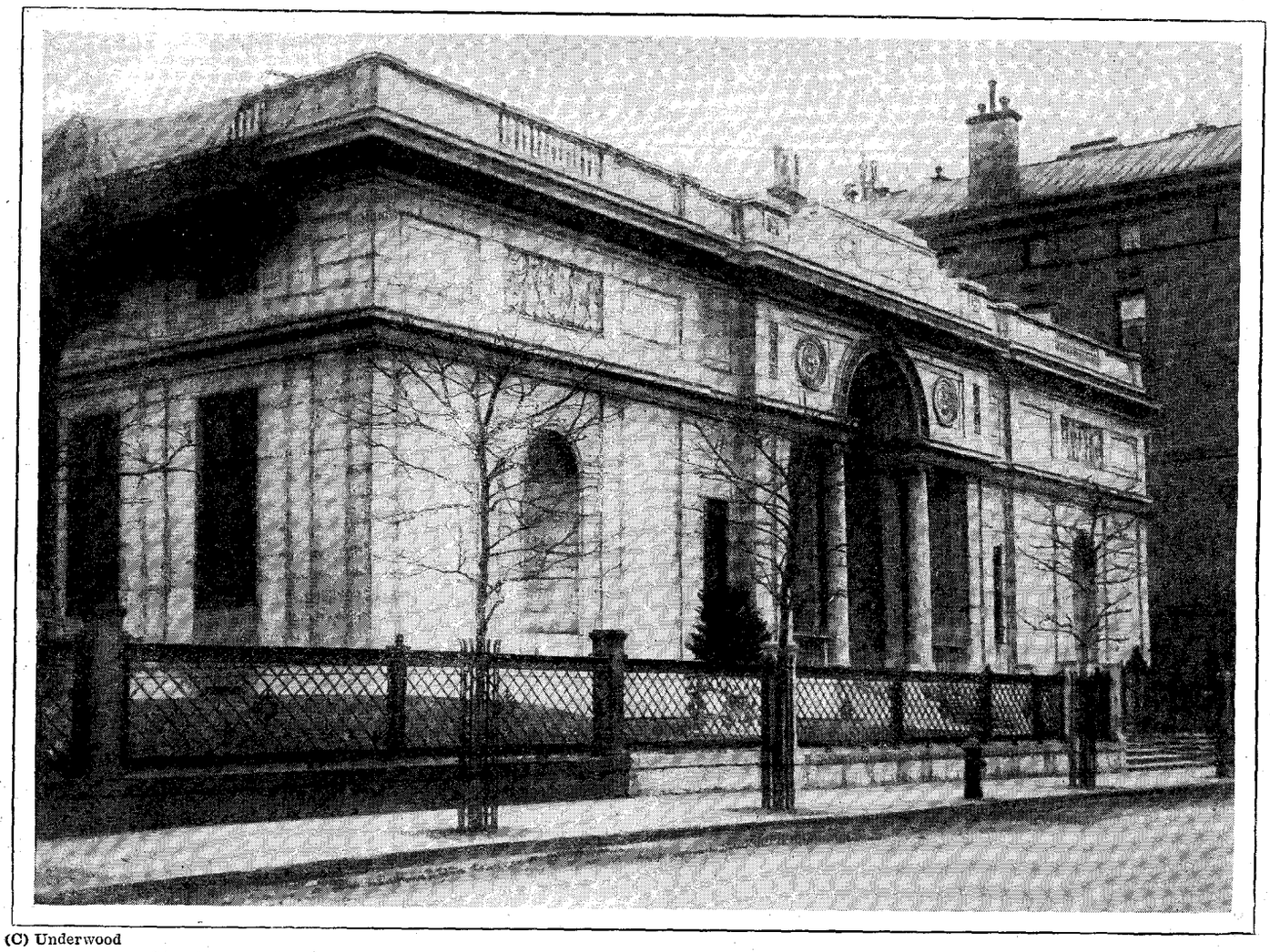

(C) Underwood

The Morgan Library, on Thirty-seventh Street, near Madison Avenue, New York City, which has been presented to the public by the son of the founder, the late J. Pierpont Morgan

within the shadow of the Capitol between prohibition officers and prohibition violators. The first one has been practically forgotten. This one, because of the wounding of Senator Greene, will not be forgotten. Many people the country over will be quite indignant and will demand that something prompt and energetic be done to make impossible any repetition of such an outrage.

These demands will come from two sets of people, holding opposite views of prohibition, and each set will be confirmed by the incident in its own opinion. One contention will be that the Prohibition Amendment, which makes such outrages possible, must be got rid of. The other will be that law violation, which results in such outrages, must be ruthlessly stamped out. Neither remedy, in fact, would quite cure the situation. Enforcement so strict that there will be no outbreaks of violence is perhaps impossible with any law. There would be violence, also, if the Prohibition Law and Amendment were wiped out. When liquor was legally sold, there were always clashes with those who persisted in selling or making it in an illegal manner.

Meantime the Volstead Law is on the statute-books, and the Eighteenth Amendment is in the Constitution. Violation of them in the National capital shocks the whole Nation's sense of decency. It ought to be possible to make Washington safe at least for the legislators whom the people send there to make laws and to mend those already made.

The Morgan Gift

THE gifts of the elder Morgan to the Metropolitan Museum of New York are well known to thousands of appreciative students and visitors. And now the younger Morgan makes the measure complete by giving to the public, with generous endowment, what is perhaps the finest private collection of rare books and manuscripts in the world.

For many years the elder Morgan searched out and gained for his library thousands of unique books and forgotten manuscripts that had not yet found their way into public msueums abroad—books of the Renaissance, rare first editions, Babylonian tablets, manuscripts of notable authors from Kipling's "Brushwood Boy" to priceless Coptic hand-written books, gems of ancient book-makers' art, letters written by interesting people in interesting times, letters of George Washington, and even one of Lord Cornwallis to Washington preceding the surrender at Yorktown—in all a most amazing collection, broad in scope, and collected and arranged in scholarly fashion, and now placed at the service of students and real book-lovers for reference and study.

That the setting might be appropriate, this treasure is housed in the marble Italian Renaissance *palazzino* which the late Charles F. McKim designed for the purpose, achieving a masterpiece.

The trustees in whose charge the library and its endowment have been given have a wide latitude as to its use. They may, if they wish, establish an art gallery. They may arrange for lectures and exhibitions and the use of the collections for educational purposes. And, while the library is to be free, it is to be

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used for reference only. The books, quite properly, are not to be taken outside. Provision is made for suitable protective restrictions. Finally, the endowment will permit the use of a considerable sum for further purchases. It is estimated that the present value of the collections is about $10,000,000.

Amherst in Japan

WHEN one considers the Japan of to-day, with her achievements in the fields of Western culture and science joining with the fine flower of her own civilization, it is amazing to remember that not many decades ago a young Japanese, Shimata Neesima, despite a death penalty promised for any who tried to leave Japan, managed to escape to America in search of what was best in Western knowledge and education.

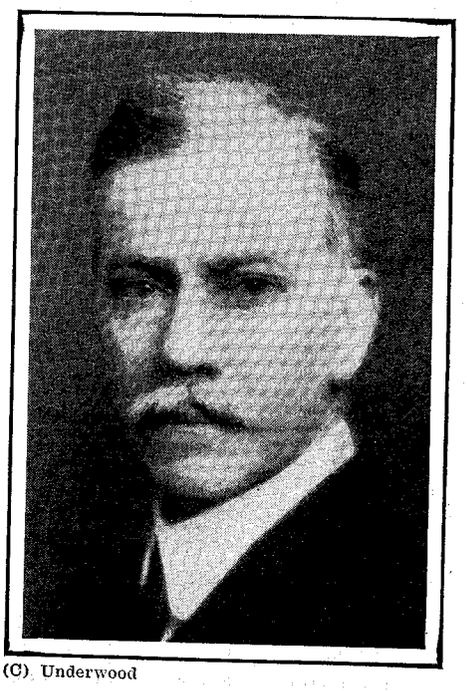
After proper preparation he entered Amherst, and on graduation decided to introduce into Japan the same kind of service to young men that he had found in the American institution. After many struggles he founded what has become Doshisha University, which began as the first Christian college in Japan, in Kyoto, the very heart and center of Buddhism. Doshisha has gained a very real success. It has its own preparatory school, several university departments, and a student body of over 3,000. Its graduates are often leaders in various lines of endeavor. Count Uchida, Minister of Foreign Affairs, for instance, is a Doshisha graduate, as is Colonel Yamamuro, of the Salvation Army, known for his beneficent work in the Japanese slums.

All this is interesting and typical of modern Japan, but the main point of interest is the bond of friendship that has been maintained between Doshisha and Amherst. A couple of years ago, to make this friendship more definite, Amherst students agreed to send a succession of two-year student representatives—Amherst men who would not only endeavor to link the two institutions in their purposes and ideals, but who would thus indirectly but positively aid in maintaining a real amity between the two nations.

Now the term of the first representative, Stewart B. Nichols, is nearly ended. To some extent he is able to make an estimate of the results of the experiment. He found, of course, that he could be useful to the Faculty, aiding directly in English language courses and in questions involving an understanding of the United States, its institutions and policies. He found that he was thus enabled to develop a better understanding of the American people—surely a very helpful achievement. His helpfulness extended into athletics, dramatics, and other typical college activities. Not only so, but his frequent reports kept Amherst familiar with the thoughts and problems of Young Japan, and an increasing number of Doshisha men look forward to Amherst for graduate study.

Dr. Jacques Loeb

This is not a very exciting story, but it means much. If a large number of our American colleges could be thus represented, and if the Japanese institutions reciprocated, the consequent mutual understanding would in a quiet but logical way greatly promote the peace of the Pacific. Mutual understanding can come only through mutual contact. Amherst and Doshisha set an example too excellent not to be followed.



(C) Underwood

Henry Bacon

Jacques Loeb

MODERN explorers are as daring as any that ever sailed uncharted seas. One of these was Jacques Loeb, who died while on a trip to Bermuda. Though of a French name, he was a native of Germany. After coming to this country he taught biology and physiology in Bryn Mawr, the University of Chicago, and the University of California, and for the past fourteen years was head of the Division of General Physiology at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City.

His explorations were not in unknown territories, but into secrets of life. He was firmly convinced by his investigations that life was the product of chemical processes. He attempted to create life by laboratory methods; for years he kept the tissue of chicken embryo alive; he experimented with the fertilization of frogs' eggs by chemical means. His contribution to biological knowledge was profound; his name stands with those of the most eminent scientists of this scientific age.

Along with his scientific habit of mind he had a philosophy which he undoubtedly honestly believed, but on which he could not possibly act. He thought of all life, of the mind of man, of all human acts, as merely part of a great mechanism over which there could be no such thing as voluntary control. Yet when he found others not sharing this philosophy, which he believed to be the proved conclusion of science, he was tempted to give up his work in despair as not being worth while. This very discouragement was proof that his philosophy was wrong, for if life—physical, mental, moral—is nothing but a machine, then nothing is worth while.

Dr. Loeb's conclusions have not all been accepted by his fellow-scientists, and by many his philosophy is rejected; but his contributions to the knowledge of chemistry and biology are of the permanent wealth of mankind.

He Designed the Lincoln Memorial

THAT Henry Bacon designed the Lincoln Memorial will in itself provide him with an enduring memorial. This eminent American architect died on February 16. He was born at Watseka,

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Illinois, in 1866, and graduated in 1888 from the University of Illinois. His development was of that steady character possible only where high purpose is coupled with creative genius.

Though he had to do with the design of many notable monuments, it is as the designer of the Lincoln Memorial that he attained his greatest reputation. "Everything that Bacon did," said Royal Cortissoz, "had quality, dignity, beauty, but nothing has the extraordinary significance of the Lincoln Memorial. He stood for the purest and most scholarly ideals of classic architecture."

The Showmen Quarrel

ALMOST unusual case of sustained interest is that which has been held by the amazing revelations and findings at Luxor. From the first finding of the hidden entrance to the tomb of Tutankhamen universal interest has seldom been allowed to die. Discovery, after an interval, has been followed by a more remarkable discovery, climax has led up to climax.

The finding of the massive granite sarcophagus, with the remains of a once magnificent linen pall about it, the slow and painstaking removal of the surrounding structure, itself a revelation of ancient art, and finally on February 12, the raising of the massive granite lid—all these events aroused extraordinary curiosity, not unmixed with some criticism, for many feel that the whole proceeding is almost a desecration.

And then within the sarcophagus was found the magnificent golden mummy case, untouched by time or by the rude hands of human despoilers, one of the greatest, if not the greatest find in Egyptology or in archæology! Here was indeed a culmination of Howard Carter's thirty-four years of archæological labor. And then came the anti-climax. The lid was lowered, the sarcophagus closed, the iron doors locked. The Egyptian Government and Howard Carter were quarreling over press rights, over the ownership of the finds, and even over sightseers' permits.

Perhaps there will be a truce, and Howard Carter will complete his work. Or, which is rather more likely at this writing, perhaps the Egyptian Government, through its Antiquity Department, will do the work itself, and the world learn all there is to be learned concerning this minor king who died 1,350 years before the Christian era.

However it may end, one thought presents itself to many. Despite all their care, their images of protecting deities, and their secret hidden entrance, the priests of ancient Egypt have failed again. Tutankhamen and his treasure are in the hands of the despoilers.

Winifred Lenihan as Joan and Maurice Colbourne as Dunois in Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan"

A Better Spirit in Europe

CONCILIATION seems to be the order of the day in Europe. The attitude of the Labor Government in England as evinced by Mr. MacDonald's speech before the House of Commons indicates a desire on the part of the British to come to a better understanding with the French. The cordial and frank interchange of views at the reception of the new German Ambassador to France by the French President indicates the beginning of better relations between France and Germany.

The evident progress which the two expert committees are making in Germany gives some reason for believing that facts which the Germans have hitherto concealed will come to light, and that when these facts are known there certainly will be a better disposition on the part of Germans to change their ways. At the same time there is still hope that French public sentiment will support the Government's plan to reconstruct French finances by the levying of more nearly adequate taxes.

If the tide has turned toward understanding it is because the Germans have begun to see that their policy of evasion has been fruitless and has harmed no one so much as themselves.

Shaw Plus

ONE of the current plays which ought to be well worth reading in book form is Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan."[1] This time Shaw has succeeded in creating a play of tremendous dramatic power—one which depends for its success upon the action and movement as well as upon intellectual pyrotechnics. The epilogue is Shavian in the old manner; the rest of

[1] It is to be published in book form in the spring by Brentano, New York City.

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the play is Shaw plus a dramatic forcefulness which he has seldom attained.

Those who have seen Winifred Lenihan as Joan in the Theater Guild production in New York City will not soon forget Shaw's portrayal of that flame-spirit who was at one and the same time child, warrior, and saint, nor will they forget the vividness with which Miss Lenihan made Shaw's conception live before their eyes.

Four Issues

FOUR distinct issues have come out of the oil investigation at Washington. If out of these revelations justice is to come, public opinion must keep these four issues distinct.

Nothing is to be gained and much will be lost if any one of these issues is confused with any other.

First, there is the issue of corruption. Those who have offered and those who have received money or other valuable consideration for action or influence which ought to be determined solely by public interest have corrupted government at its source. Whether such corruption can be definitely branded as illegal or not, it is nevertheless corruption. It is the revelation of such a corrupt attitude of mind on the part of people who are generally trusted that has shocked the public and has roused the people to wrath. It is for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent the corruption has taken the form of the violation of law that the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed special counsel for legal proceedings. The President has promised the people that there will be no holding back of anything, no matter what the consequences may be. Mere wrath accomplishes nothing. Its value lies in compelling action. It is therefore important that the wrath of the people be directed toward the right objects. If there is confusion in mind on this subject, that wrath will be dissipated where it ought to be concentrated.

Second, there is the issue of incompetence. Have the rights of the people in their property been sacrificed through the negligence or stupidity or wrong-headedness of those charged with the care of them? That is a very different question from the question of corruption. It is true that the fool may cause more injury on certain occasions than the knave; but that is no reason for treating the fool as if he were a knave. Some of the confusion in the minds of the people is due to the fact that it has not always been clear how much the present oil lease scandal is due to knavery and how much to folly. Some of the confusion has been doubtless due to the fact that there was folly in Congress which Congress has only been too glad to attempt to conceal by a smoke screen of general accusation. Not all the incompetence necessarily is to be found in the executive offices. Many of the legislators who have denounced incompetence in the administration of the oil lease were themselves obviously incompetent in permitting an ambiguous or lax provision in the oil leasing law to pass their scrutiny.

Third, there is the issue of Conservation. What was once an almost dead issue has been raised to life. There are honest and capable anti-Conservationists as well as honest and capable Conservationists. It is idle to identify all honesty and ability with those who are in one group or with those in the other. Nevertheless it has become clear that with the loss of interest in Conservation there have appeared corruption and incompetence on a greater scale than before. The corruptionists may be punished. The incompetents may be put out of office. There will remain, however, the issue between those who honestly believe that Conservation is a burden upon the country and those who believe that it is a great safeguard. Probably the public wrath against the corrupt and the public demand for competence in office will aid the cause of Conservation temporarily; but this issue will not be settled right until it is freed from consideration of corruption and incompetence and made the object of intelligent decision by the people as a matter of policy.

Fourth, there is the issue of encroachment of Congress upon the rights of the Executive. This issue is one that we must expect in this country to appear from time to time. It has repeatedly appeared ever since the establishment of the Constitution. It is not surprising that it should have reappeared at this time. Congress is not only jealous of its own prerogatives; it is likely to be indifferent to the prerogatives of others, and particularly of the President. It would like to be Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. It would like to select and dismiss the President's Cabinet. It would like to administer the details of various departments. It would like to do a number of things which it is utterly incapable of doing properly. In this case it has raised the issue of encroachment by endeavoring to get rid of an executive officer without the Constitutional means of impeachment and trial.

If there is confusion in the minds of the people about this oil lease scandal, it is Congress itself that is largely responsible by bringing in an issue which need not have been brought in at all.

This is a time for clear thinking. It is easy to rouse passion; it is not easy to stimulate thought. Fortunately, there is in the White House a man who can be trusted to keep his head and to make issues clear.

Forestalling a Helium Scandal

WHATEVER may be the outcome of the investigations and legal battles caused by the leases of the naval oil reserves to the Sinclair and Doheny interests, we are assured that Government property from now on will be watched with an eagle eye by Congress. Never again, in the language of a certain Senator, will the "property of this Nation be exploited by any private interests." Well and good; but there are priceless National assets being wasted through neglect by Congress, and every day we see the waste continue without a murmur from Capitol Hill.

For instance, nature, in a prodigal mood, gave to this country practically all of the helium in the world. We have it in quantity. No one else has. Only very small quantities of helium have been found outside of the United States. Canada has some. It is found in the craters of active volcanoes, but, under such circumstances, is not recoverable. In this country it is found in the mixture of gases known as "natural gas." As we use up our supply of natural gas or allow it to escape into the air, we lose its helium content. It is estimated by authorities in the Bureau of Mines at Washington that 500,000,000 cubic feet of this precious gas is lost every year by this means —enough to fill the balloonets of 220 Shenandoahs.

Congress has been apprized of this waste time and time again. It is a matter of public knowledge, thanks to the press. But we see nothing done to conserve this essential to lighter-than-air development and to the National defense. Public servants in the Army and Navy and the Bureau of Mines have even begged for legislation to enable the Government to take the proper steps to make our helium supply available for military,

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naval, and commercial use. Thus far all such efforts have been unavailing. We let nature's gift dissipate into thin air at an appalling rate daily.

Helium is found in sufficient quantities to make its extraction a matter of economic certainty in Texas; Oklahoma; all through the Osages and running northeast to the Kansas border; in the Dexter and Sedan fields, especially, in southeast Kansas; in Shelby and Hancock Counties, Indiana; in Vinton County, Ohio; Ontario and Genesee Counties, New York; Potter and McKean Counties, Pennsylvania; Randolph County, West Virginia; and in a few other places. At the present time, however, the only helium extraction plants in operation are the Army-Navy plants at Petrolia and Fort Worth, Texas. The helium with which the Shenandoah is inflated came from these plants. But it is well known that there is only sufficient helium available for extraction by these two plants to keep them running for two years. If they are not kept running, the helium will be exhausted and lost in four to five years. These plants must be kept going to their full capacity and then shifted to new locations when the supply of helium has been saved from the Petrolia and Fort Worth fields. It should be pointed out that the natural gas purged from its helium content burns with greater economy than before. Further, the by-products of helium extraction—liquid hydrogen, liquid oxygen, and liquid nitrogen—when marketed make helium a free gift.

Helium must be added to the programme of National Conservation. Further neglect of this duty places squarely on the shoulders of Congress the responsibility for future waste and depletion of a National asset of incalculable value to commerce and the National defense.

This fact has been recognized by our military and naval leaders and by a few members of Congress. Senator Morris Sheppard, of Texas, and Representative Fritz G. Lanham, of the same State, have been constant in their efforts to bring before Congress the necessity of helium conservation, but as the Army-Navy helium plants are in Texas, these two men have been unfairly accused of cheap and personal politics.

In the last session of Congress, however, partisan politics were discounted by the fact that Representative Julius Kahn, of California, Chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, introduced a bill, known as H. R. 11549, for authorizing the conservation, production, and exploitation of helium gas, a mineral resource pertaining to the National defense, and to the development of commercial aeronautics. Julius Kahn has been a member of every Congress since the Fifty-sixth (the present Congress is the Sixty-eighth), and he has contributed enormously to the general welfare, his constructive measures have been among the bulwarks of our National defense, yet his bill was not made law by the last Congress because of indifference.

There is a close parallel to the legislation providing for the naval oil reserves in the Kahn Bill for helium conservation. The Kahn Bill provides for the complete handling of the helium situation by the Secretary of the Interior, but the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy are obliged to furnish the Interior Department with the requirements of their Departments, which become the chief and first consideration of the Secretary of the Interior in the discharge of his duties under the law. This is as it should be, especially in light of recent disclosures relative to the naval oil reserve leases.

It may be a matter of debate in Congress whether the Secretary of the Interior should be given such broad powers as are set forth in the Kahn Bill, or if he should not be pinned down closer in the matter of contracts, sales, and leases by including the proviso that Congress must concur in such cases. Such a suggestion leaves one cold, for, taken by and large during the 147 and more years of our independence, we have had little dishonesty on the part of our public officials in high circles; thus there is little merit in that type of legislation which places so many safeguards against possible abuse of office that the prime factor in the legislation in hand is almost impossible of realization.

Without broad powers the Secretary of the Interior and his co-operators, the President, and the Secretaries of War and the Navy, would find it very difficult to wrest from private exploitation those lands and facilities which make up the sum total of our helium resources. Moreover, we should not let the naval oil reserve turmoil with all its political fires and backfires affect our judgment in framing the laws which are designed quickly and permanently to save for our general welfare the balance of that fast diminishing gift of nature, helium, which is so vital to the future development of American aeronautics. Let the Kahn Bill become law with the least possible delay. It is a measure framed by a patriot, to be administered by patriots; if Congress is motivated by patriotism, we will not be cooling our heels much longer.

Under the White Hood

SHERMAN ROGERS uses a telling aphorism when he tries to bring two opponents to the same point of view.

Says Rogers: "There are not two sides to every question, there are three; your side, the other fellow's side, and the right side."

When The Outlook prints an article on a controversial subject and gets hammered from two directions, we generally comfort ourselves with the consolation that the article is probably within point-blank range of the truth.

During the publication of Stanley Frost's series of articles on the Ku Klux Klan we have had every opportunity to avail ourselves of this form of consolation. Klansmen and Klan sympathizers have attacked the series as whole-heartedly as the strongest opponents of the Klan. Mr. Frost has been accused of holding a secret membership in the Klan and also in the Catholic Church. Needless to say that such criticism constituted only part of the voluminous correspondence which the Klan articles evoked. Representing directly opposite points of view, letters have come to us from Klansmen thanking Mr. Frost for pointing out the evils in their own organization and from anti-Klansmen thanking us for giving the facts concerning the Klan, that they might more intelligently meet its arguments and its propaganda.

In its issue of January 9 The Outlook analyzed editorially some of the reasons for the growth of the Klan and some of the reasons why it was essentially a dangerous organization for any civilized community. First and foremost among these reasons is the power which the Klan possesses to strike in the dark. It seems to us that the last two articles by Mr. Frost constitute an unanswerable presentation of the menace of this power. Stanley Frost tells of Klansmen on the eve of an election "waiting for the word," and he says that the attitude of these men was that of soldiers waiting for and ready to carry out orders.

Such docility is not entirely a new

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phenomenon in American politics. We have had political machines before which have passed out the word to their cohorts at crucial moments in a campaign; but the system has not been one of which students of American democracy have been particularly proud. Stanley Frost also points out the fact that the Klan seeks to win, no matter what party is victorious at the polls, by the simple and old-fashioned expedient of controlling both candidates for each office. Klansmen claim, and undoubtedly believe, that there is a vital difference between such a policy and the familar activities of bi-partisan political bosses of the old school.

Though the purpose of Klansmen and political bosses may be dissimilar, there exists the same inevitable danger in the methods of each of them. The danger lies in the secrecy of the act. A whispering campaign is not suited to the real genius of American politics. There is little danger in any programme which is discussed in the open. Its good points will in time be recognized, its bad points abandoned, if only the light of publicity can be played upon them.

As The Outlook has already said, the greatest weakness of the Ku Klux Klan lies in the fact that in its very attempt to preserve the American spirit it denies it. Possibly this fact may not be recognized in time by many of the loyal Americans who are within the hooded ranks in order to halt the ambitious plans of the Klan during the coming Presidential election. No one can tell until after the November elections, and perhaps not even then, how much the Klan will have affected the results.

Whatever the results in November may be, we are certain that in the end the Klan and the Klan spirit will vanish into the limbo of American political curiosities. The spirit of legitimate aversion to alien ideals may carry over into other forms of political expression, more wisely ordered and more suited to American life. No matter how powerful the Klan may become during the next few months, the precedent of all American history tends to show that its power will be short-lived.

Calvin Coolidge at the Helm

IN heavy weather it is well if the man at the helm is not an enthusiast or an adventurer, but a skipper of experience and common sense. It is certainly heavy weather that the Federal Government is encountering now. The man in command now at Washington is well revealed in the speech which he made on Lincoln's Birthday at the dinner of the National Republican Club in New York.

Those who were present in the ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria that evening have testified that there was no fervent oratory, no appeal to the emotions, no rousing summons to action. Many hundreds of thousands in homes far from New York heard President Coolidge more distinctly by radio than those who were in the back of the room.

Lincoln's Service the Model

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE'S address was a development of a single theme. To express it in another way, everything that he said about the questions now before the Nation was based on a common principle. This single theme, this common principle, he found exemplified in the service of Abraham Lincoln. "To me," he said, "the greatness of Lincoln consisted very largely of a vision by which he saw more clearly than the men of his time the moral relationship of things. . . . He restored National unity by restoring moral unity."

The principle which formed the theme of the President's address he stated in these words:

> There is no sound policy which is narrow or sectional or limited. Every sound policy must be National in its scope. It is always necessary to determine what will be good for the whole country.

The Farmer a National Figure

WITH this principle in mind, the President summoned his hearers to think of the needs of agriculture on which are dependent more than forty millions of our people, and in which is invested an amount several times as large as that invested in all the railways of the country. And yet while manufacturing and transportation and commerce are on the whole remarkably prosperous, this interest, agriculture, "as a whole languishes." The President in three sentences summarized what he had done as President to promote agricultural welfare:

> I have already encouraged organization and co-operative marketing that organized agriculture may cope with organized industry. I have promoted tariff investigations for increased rates on wheat. I have extended relief through the War Finance Corporation and the Federal Reserve Bank System.

He recalled his specific recommendations to Congress, he declared his opposition to price fixing, "because it would not make prices higher, but in the end would make them lower." "In the farm," he said to this metropolitan audience, "you have a direct economic and financial interest. You cannot long prosper with that great population and great area in distress. . . . Unsound economic conditions are not conducive to sound legislation. The farm has a social value which cannot be overestimated. It is the natural home of liberty and the support of courage and character. . . . The resources of the country ought to come to the support of agriculture."

Taxes and the Cost of Living

THE first cause for the ills of agriculture, and therefore of the country, is the "amount and method of National taxation." When added to local and State taxation, the burden is about $68 for every inhabitant of the land. The seven and a half billion dollars collected annually in taxes are taken from the consumer in the form of the high cost of living. To the skill of Secretary Mellon for arranging the payment of the Government's debts and to the Budget Bureau for its service in eliminating waste President Coolidge paid deserved tribute; but he said the taxation must be reduced, and the Mellon plan for tax reduction is a non-partisan plan which follows the views of the two preceding Secretaries of the Treasury, both Democrats. "The first object of taxation is to secure revenue;" and "experience does not show that the higher rate produces the larger revenue. . . . When taxation of large incomes is excessive, they tend to disappear." The high tax rate has driven incomes of a million dollars or more out of sight if not out of existence. In 1916 there were 206 incomes of a million dollars or more each. Then the high tax rate went into effect, and they fell off as follows: In 1917 to 141; in 1918 to 67; in 1919 to 65; in 1920 to 33; and in 1921 to 21. In our attempts to get 55

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International

President Coolidge speaking at the annual Lincoln dinner, held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York City. At the right stands Nathaniel A. Elsberg, President of the National Republican Club, under whose auspices the dinner was given. President Coolidge's address was broadcast to all parts of the United States

per cent from a man with an income of a million dollars and 68 per cent from a man with an income of five million dollars "we are rapidly approaching the point of getting nothing at all." It is not a question of relieving the high incomes and burdening the small incomes. On the contrary, as the President said:

> I agree perfectly with those who wish to relieve the small taxpayer by getting the largest possible contribution from the people with large incomes. But if the rates on large incomes are so high that they disappear, the small taxpayer will be left to bear the entire burden.

That is the answer which President Coolidge gives to demagogic appeals. As the President says, "the largest possible amount of surplus income should be invested in productive enterprise," but "this will not be done if the rewards of such action are very largely taken away by taxation." And he illustrated this point with a homely illustration:

> If we had a tax whereby on the first working day the Government took 5 per cent of your wages, on the second day 10 per cent, on the third day 20 per cent, on the fourth day 30 per cent, on the fifth day 50 per cent, and on the sixth day 60 per cent, how many of you would continue to work on the last two days of the week?

The effect of this is to drive competing enterprises out of business and thus not only to increase the cost of living but to foster monopoly. And he showed how surtaxes levied on incomes otherwise available for investment are really paid by the consumers, and that means by the poor. In particular, they are paid by the farmer, as he pointed out, using another homely illustration to make the point clear:

> A farmer ships a steer to Chicago. His tax, the tax on the railroad transporting the animal, and of the yards where the animal is sold, go into the price of the animal to the packer. The packer's tax goes into the price of the hide to the New England shoe manufacturer. The manufacturer's tax goes into the price to the wholesaler, and the wholesaler's tax goes into the price to the retailer, who in turn adds his tax in his price to his purchaser. So it may be said that if the farmer ultimately wears the shoes he pays everybody's taxes from the farm to his feet.

The Mellon plan will lighten this burden. According to the bill which the President advocates, the great saving will be to people of small incomes and "less than 3 per cent of the proposed reduction would accrue to those who have incomes of over $100,000." The President mentioned the Garner plan as being political in theory and impossible in practice. "It is entirely possible, he said, "to have a first-class bill. I want the country to have the best there is." And, identifying this best existing bill with the Mellon plan, he added:

> I am for it because it will reduce taxes on all classes of income. I am for it because it will encourage business. I am for it because it will decrease the cost of living. I am for it because it is economically, socially, and morally sound.

This is the people's fight, the President said, and they alone can win it. "Unless they make their wishes known to Congress without regard to party this bill will not pass."

The Bonus—Bad Politics and Bad Patriotism

THE proposed bonus, the President said, would mean the indefinite postponement of tax reduction and another increase in the cost of living. We do not want another period of depression either in business or on the farms. Said the President:

> A few months of good times are worth more to the service men themselves than anything they could receive in the way of a bonus.
>
> But this question goes deeper than that. I am aware that some men made money out of the war. Many of them lost what they made, but not all. No doubt there are some such who are justly to be criticised for greed and selfishness. Unfortunately, they would not pay the bonus. . . .
>
> This question ought to be decided in accordance with the welfare of the whole country.
>
> No one doubts the patriotism of those who advocate the bonus. No one denies that the country owes a debt which it never can pay to those who were in the service. Their disabilities must be recompensed, their health restored, their dependents supported; all at public expense. They are entitled to the highest honor. But the service they rendered was of such a nature that it cannot be recompensed to them by the payment of money. America was not waging war for the purpose of securing spoils. The American soldier did not enter the service for the purpose of securing personal gain.

Mexico

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE'S explanation of the action of the American Government in supplying arms to the Government of Mexico for the suppression of insurrection there is simple and clear. It was the action of a Government peacefully inclined. "Our Government," says the President, "does not want war anywhere. It wants peace everywhere. . . . It recognizes, however, that every government must necessarily maintain some military establishment for national defense and the policing of its own domain. . . . The traffic in arms is one which the American Government wishes to discour-

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age." With every disposition to join with other governments in further limitation of competitive armaments, and with the recognition of the right of every people to pull down or set up whatever government they wish "without any interference from us, so long as there is no interference with the lawful rights of our Government or our citizens within their territory," the United States encountered in Mexico a situation which called for friendliness and helpfulness. That situation and the American Government's acts the President describes as follows:

After a long period of shifting and what appeared to us to be unsubstantial Governments in that country, we recently reached the opinion that President Obregon has established a Government which is stable and effective, and disposed to observe international obligations. We therefore recognize it.

When disorder arose there, President Obregon sought the purchase of a small amount of arms and munitions of our Government for the purpose of insuring his own domestic tranquillity. We had either to refuse or to comply. To refuse would have appeared to be equivalent to deciding that a friendly Government, which we had recognized, ought not to be permitted to protect itself. Stated in another way, it would mean that we had decided that it ought to be overthrown, and that the very agency which we had held out as able to protect the interests of our citizens within its borders ought not to be permitted to have the means to make such protection effective. My decision ran in a counter direction.

It was not a situation of our making, but one which came and had to be met. In meeting it I did what I thought was necessary to discharge the moral obligation of one friendly Government to another. The supremacy of the Obregon Government now appears to be hopeful. Whatever may be the outcome, we are not responsible for it. . . .

I propose to continue whatever course of action is customary between friendly governments. While I trust no further action may be necessary, I shall continue to afford protection in accordance with the requirements of international law. I propose to protect American lives and American rights.

The Oil Scandal

THE President's statement with regard to the oil leases can best be stated by a quotation of his own words:

It is my duty to extend to every individual the Constitutional right to the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. But I have another duty equally Constitutional, and even more important, of securing the enforcement of the law. In that duty I do not intend to fail. . . .

At the revelation of greed making its subtle approaches to public officers, of the prostitution of high place to private profit, we are filled with scorn and indignation. We have a deep sense of humiliation at such gross betrayal of trust, and we lament the undermining of public confidence in official integrity. But we cannot rest with righteous wrath; still less can we permit ourselves to give way to cynicism. The heart of the American people is sound. Their officers with rare exception are faithful and high-minded. For us, we propose to follow the clear, open path of justice. There will be immediate, adequate, unshrinking prosecution, criminal and civil, to punish the guilty and to protect every National interest. In this effort there will be no politics, no partisanship. It will be speedy, it will be just. I am a Republican, but I cannot on that account shield any one because he is a Republican. I am a Republican, but I cannot on that account prosecute any one because he is a Democrat.

I want no hue and cry, no mingling of innocent and guilty in unthinking condemnation, no confusion of mere questions of law with questions of fraud and corruption. It is at such a time that the quality of our citizenry is tested—unrelenting toward evil, fair-minded and intent upon the requirements of due process, the shield of the innocent and the safeguard of society itself.

The President concluded with an expression of faith in the moral standards of the people as "revealed by their instant reaction against wrong-doing" and in the power of the Government to maintain itself. "The moral force of Lincoln is with us still."

Germany Through French Eyes

By ELBERT FRANCIS BALDWIN

The Outlook's Editorial Correspondent in Europe

THE situation in the Ruhr to-day is certainly contrary to what the French found and to what I found a year ago.

Friendlier Feeling

"A YEAR ago we were stationed at Essen. If we wanted a glass of beer between meals, we had to go over to the saloon across the way, choose an empty glass from those newly washed and waiting, take it to the spigot and draw our beer. After drinking it we had to put the exact sum of money it cost on the counter and leave the place. No German would draw our beer or take money from our hand. Even to get beer peaceably in this way one of us had to stand guard at the door. Our commandant would not allow us to buy food or anything else, and for the good reason that the Germans would not sell anything to the 'enemy.' But he and they agreed to this form of beer concession." This from a French officer. He added:

"What do we see now? Our *poilus* everywhere acting as if they had always lived in Germany, already talking much German, getting well acquainted with the people, buying anything that they can afford. And the Germans, discovering that we really wish them no harm, but only want to collect an overdue debt, are already talking much French, selling us anything we want, and actually riding on our trains."

A year ago the Germans tried to boycott these trains; they would take, instead, the slower but German-managed electrics. Now, however, the regular railway trains are carrying crowds of passengers, the vast majority being German, despite the Franco-Belgian personnel. Even at the station restaurant here I have seen no waiter and in the corridors outside no newspaper vender who was not either French or Belgian. What is more, I have not observed the slightest indication of unfriendliness towards them from the Germans.

German Dismemberment

IN the next place, a year ago the French were beginning their Ruhr campaign. They have now practically ended it. They have won.

Anti-French critics have been saying that the real French motive in the Ruhr

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was not so much to get reparations as to divide Germany into independent parts, so as the easier to conquer her. "If this had been true," remarked another officer to me, "we would have taken another course. Instead of the valley of the Ruhr we would have entered that of the Main, thus separating Prussia and Bavaria, who were disliking each other cordially, as later events showed. On the contrary, we did what we knew would unite the diverse regions of Germany into one integrity, as it did.

"And now, instead of remaining forever in the Ruhr, as our detractors prophesied we would, we have begun to withdraw our troops, German resistance having really ceased. No, the economic order in France, as in Europe, can never be predicated on Germany's dissolution. German federalism, however, is quite another matter.

"Then our critics declared that if we obtained success in the Ruhr the German Republic would fall. But the only thing that has fallen has been the German mark.

"What is the conclusion of the whole matter? Listen to the language of a fine fellow I know, a former German officer—you would not have heard such a sentiment a year ago: 'We have waged two wars,' he told me, 'a military and an economic. Both have ruined us as a people. We are not so unintelligent as to wish to continue such wars, no matter what revenge may come later. No, we have reached the crossroads; we are quitting the old route and are resolutely entering upon the new. That is to say, we are now going to work for peace by establishing a sincere, solid, and thoroughgoing accord with France.' "

Military Evasion

WOULD that this sentiment might inspire the entire German Government!

There are two ways to keep the peace with Germany and avoid a new war. One is for the victors to collect the reparations due; the other is to keep Germany disarmed down to the Treaty stipulations. The German industrialists, at last perceiving the necessity of surrender, will probably carry the Government with them as to reparations. The German militarists, however, are still stiff-necked. A year ago the Interallied Military Control Commission was doing a good work. But Berlin has been turning a deaf ear to its visits for the inspection of German enrollment registers of the Reichswehr and the Schützpolizei; for noting whether there was any excess armament, whether the recruiting of reserve officers had ceased, whether the former staffs had disappeared and the war schools had been suppressed. "It is impossible for us to accomplish these things save by surprise visits," stated one of the Commission to me, "otherwise the German commander would cause everything contrary to the Treaty to vanish and we would be in the dark as to Germany's real military condition." The Berlin Government has now consented to the resumption of the visits, provided it is notified when and where they are to occur! Whether the Allies will put up with this remains to be seen. At all events, instead of the former visits of two officers in uniform, the Interallied character of the operations will now be marked on each visit by four officers in civil dress—one English, one Belgian, one French, and one Italian.

Famine

THE French, like all other foreigners in Germany, are finding that it costs twice as much to live here as it did a year ago. In fact, Germany has become the most expensive country in Europe. And yet German crops have been remarkably good and the farmers' barns and yards are full of supplies. But the farmer has refused to sell unless buyers could pay in foreign currencies. The German mark was beneath contempt. Of course the bakers and butchers in the towns followed this example with what supplies they had. Few Germans could command enough marks to exchange for foreign currencies and so obtain food.

For over a year the result has been such a famine as Germany has never known. Despair has been particularly marked during this present cold, damp winter, for coal has become a luxury too. There was a quick appeal to the emergency funds of trade unions, benefit societies, etc., but their funds were soon exhausted. This year there are many fewer children in the Cologne schools than last; the children have not had sufficient food and clothing; many have had tuberculosis; many have died. Not a few schools, hospitals, and asylums have had to close, throwing their personnel out of work. In the large towns there have been soup kitchens to fend off the famine a bit. "At Essen," a French officer told me, "we established enough *soupes populaires* to save at least 4,000 persons from starving. But we got no help from the Germans when they found that we were going ahead, anyway." There has been an alarming increase in the death rate, including an especially alarming increase in the number of suicides—in the town of Breslau there has been an average of one a day for a long time. No wonder that bread riots broke out at Berlin and elsewhere and that bakers' windows were smashed!

Germany, it was believed, could not cope with the situation. Accordingly, from America, England, Switzerland, Sweden, Holland, and other countries humane persons sent funds for aid. Such engineries of good as the Red Cross and the Rockefeller Institute helped.

The Profiteers

OF course a nation as a whole can be in need and yet present the spectacle of certain immense hoards of wealth cruelly gained because of the very circumstances which have produced that need. Exactly that has happened here. The people as a whole have been impoverished.

First, because those already wealthy and in control of the Government have evaded paying their taxes, thus really appropriating to themselves that much of the national income; in other words, stealing the people's money. Up to the present the Government has done practically nothing to bring these quitters to the realization of their duty, or of their crime against the less fortunate for whose relief the Government might have spent the proceeds due.

Second, every time the mark has fallen the employers of labor have profited, because of wages, other money contracts, and mortgages paid in depreciated currency. In these respects this inflation was so much repudiation.

Third, the profiteers have sent abroad most of their balances and have kept abroad the payments due for goods sold there; of course these funds have been of no use to Germany, much less through Germany to the credit of reparation payments.

Fourth, these profiteers with their gigantic fortunes have done really nothing in the direction of almsgiving. When individuals are not spontaneously generous sometimes a subscription appeal publicly presented compels them to appear so. But how many names of the German wealthy do you find as having subscribed handsomely, if at all, to these appeals? That they have millions to spend is evident in their financing of various societies and newspapers which have hindered the work of reparation payments.

The other day I took a modest meal at the Restaurant Cornelius, the largest and best here. Despite the high-priced bill of fare, the place was crowded. I and others had to wait for seats. Every one seemed cheerful and happy. All were speaking and *looking* German.

On New Year's Eve at Berlin some five hundred persons paid about ten dollars apiece for a celebration dinner at the

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finest hotel. Many more would have done so but for the fact that there was no more room. These persons were almost exclusively German. A year ago it would not have been so, because of the relatively low prices. There were then a considerable number of foreigners in Germany; now there are very few.

Abroad, in the winter sports resorts in Switzerland—at St. Moritz, for example, where prices are certainly not low—there are more Germans, the papers say, than the representatives of any other nation. The reported large expenditure of these Germans is in glaring contrast to that of the comparatively few French guests, and surely with the famine here. The circumstance has even elicited a public protest from the German Foreign Minister.

On the one hand, funds are being collected for the German starving; on the other; the German rich are spending their gains lavishly. It is a curious spectacle.

Düsseldorf, January, 1924.

What Mr. Underwood Stands For

By NELSON M. SHIPP

THE OUTLOOK has published an article supporting the candidacy of William G. McAdoo for the Democratic nomination for President. Now an ardent supporter and a close friend of Oscar W. Underwood, Senator from Alabama, comes forward with a presentation of the reason why Senator Underwood should have the votes which Mr. McAdoo desires. Mr. Shipp is a well-known citizen of Georgia

SINCE the hour of excitement over a well-known, likable maker of automobiles has been poured into the bottle of stability and quietness the South has pondered the 1924 political question in terms of two men—McAdoo and Underwood.

The fact that Mr. Underwood lives in the South cannot justly militate against him, for of many Democrats he has well proved himself more than a Southerner. In fact, the admirable thing about Senator Underwood is that he has put what he conceives to be the best interests of the country and of the world above politics. He ably supported President Wilson's efforts to build a new world order on the basis of good understanding and American active participation in world helpfulness. He was equally willing to support President Harding's step in the same direction, and it was Underwood's fine spirit as to the Washington Armament Conference and his fine counsel in his party that were big factors in the success of Mr. Harding's programme.

More than any other one Democrat, he had it in his power to make the Armament Conference a success, and to his everlasting credit he rose to the occasion most worthily. At a time when the Democratic Senators were debating how they would vote on the agreements arrived at by the Armament Conference, Senator Underwood lent the weight of his judgment and his position of leadership to bring the Democratic Senators into line for large, patriotic, and nonpartisan action.

In fact, one of the elements of Mr. Underwood's greatness is precisely his fairness and his putting the promotion of good causes ahead of party expediency. As President he would seek to unify all of the elements of the country in the interest of the achievement of good things, and would not be looking out for some tactful political advantage. Right or wrong, there is a strong opinion in the South that if a few others had acted in the same spirit that has characterized Mr. Underwood the United States would not have lost its opportunity to be the leading factor in the healing and reconstruction of the Old World. As so many new issues arise, the finest asset we can have in a President is precisely the spirit of Senator Underwood.

As to the League of Nations, he heartily supported President Wilson's efforts to make it a reality, but since America lost her opportunity to enter the League at the opportune time and things have reached new complications as the result of world drifting, he favors new efforts that will meet the situation to-day and new situations as they may arrive. As Senator Underwood recently said, what Mr. Wilson desired was to incarnate the spirit of Christ in the affairs of the world; and this is precisely what Mr. Underwood desires. He is on tiptoe, as it were, watching for a turn of affairs that will enable the public opinion of America to do in concrete ways what Mr. Wilson and the other fine spirits of the country have desired to accomplish in the way of making the world at least safer for peace, democracy, and fine co-operative efforts.

The League sentiment in the South is coming to understand that in politics, as well as in religion and education, men make a common mistake, which is the going beyond a certain point in adhering to labels and symbols. Men are wont to follow a name rather than a spirit. The time is here to follow a spirit, to be led by a clear light rather than its shadow. The League is the shadow, or rather the lamp, of the light. Being only the lamp, it is not in itself the light. What one lamp can do others might do even as well.

When electricity first came in, there were many who clung to the old lamp with fondness and devotion. They held on vigorously and defiantly to their lamps when the light was the thing.

There has now appeared a new lamp that will take up the light that is becoming dim in the other lamp. The League has not been so popular a flame-container as would make it workable. It does not burn brightly outside of the spirit. Mr. Lodge and other gentlemen were in favor of trimming its wick. In fact, they wanted to trim it before the lamp had been lighted. The controversy over the wick-trimming resulted in the good housewife—the American Senate—hurling the lamp out of the window into the yard of Europe, where it has lain necessarily damaged by the casting out, so damaged that either there will have to be a large repairing or another lamp brought into existence.

From present indications, the World Court is the new lamp. The good housewife is going to like that vessel, because so many of her neighbors and friends are pleased with it. Even those in the South who dearly love the old lamp and who find difficulty in becoming reconciled to the bright new one are now generous and intelligent enough to see that the new one will have to be hung in the place of the other.

This does not mean that the old lamp must be treated roughly or badly. Those who love it are going to try to keep it somewhere around the house, at

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some spot where they can retire and fondle it in love and reverence, and with fine, even sacred, memories. It might be placed in some convenient spot, so that if the electricity fails at times it can be rushed out into service temporarily or as an aid.

To change the metaphor, this is the sentiment as the writer sees it in the South: The ox will have his stall, no matter if the horse supplants him, that the ox may be found if ever the horse should grow weak under a heavy load while crossing a bog and should need a bit of assistance urgently that only the ox might give.

As to Mr. Underwood's exact position on the League, as he has made it clear, that will be given below in the summary of what the Senator stands for, concretely stated.

Simply as a matter of convenience, the summary has been drawn up to parallel points set forth in the recent article in The Outlook, "The South—in 1924," by a most interesting writer, Mr. George Fort Milton, Jr., who is officially connected with the McAdoo forces.

Southern Shibboleths

MR. MILTON mentions five different questions as indispensable issues in the campaign for the Presidential nomination, and declares the successful candidate must satisfy the people of the South on each of them before he can expect to be their standard-bearer next summer. To none of these questions can the Underwood forces object. On the whole, they are fairly stated. The gymnastics do not begin until Mr. Milton starts to prove that "McAdoo more fairly fits the qualifications the South requires than Senator Underwood."

The questions, briefly stated, are as follows:

(1) Prohibition. Mr. Milton says that the South would be more likely to split with the Democratic party on this issue than on any one other.

(2) League of Nations. "Southern Democratic sentiment, in the main, is well convinced that America should in some way co-operate with the rest of the world in the world's rehabilitation. The League of Nations, the World Court, and other essays at this end have the cordial approval of the greater part of the party membership."

(3) Liberalism of spirit. "The farmer, laboring man, man on the street, in the South, want a candidate whom they think cannot be bought or influenced; a man who isn't a Wall Street lawyer or friend; who will do what he can to keep the high surtaxes high; who will batter down the tariff wall, promote better markets for farm products, stop sugar and gasoline gouges, lower railway rates, and reduce taxes. It's a big order, but that's what the masses are talking about."

(4) Aid for the Farmer. "He is beginning to suspect that the rebuilding of markets is what is needed, instead of tariffs, loans, free seeds, or political panaceas."

(5) Muscle Shoals. "The South wants Henry Ford's offer for the great unfinished hydroelectric plant accepted. . . . The aspirant for the nomination who does not make a definite and favorable statement as to his advocacy of the Ford proposal will not arouse a great deal of enthusiasm in the central South."

To take these five issues for what they are worth, it would seem that Senator Underwood measures up to their demands more fully than any candidate who has so far spoken his views to the public.

As to prohibition, let Mr. Underwood speak for himself:

"It is the law now, and in the Constitution of the United States. No man should be President of the United States who would nullify any part of the Constitution; no man should be President of this country who would be half-way for the Constitution and half-way against it."

There is a voice that rings clear. None can mistake it, and none will misinterpret it except those who do so willfully and for selfish ends. Mr. Underwood has voted for every appropriation that has been presented to the Senate for funds to enforce prohibition. Moreover, he has declared that the cry being made for light wines and beers does not meet his approval, and they are not obtainable under his interpretation of the Constitution.

As to the second issue, the League of Nations, the Senator has spoken clearly and unmistakably. He is one of the United States Senators who voted for it till it went down in defeat. Since that time, and since his return from Europe, he is perhaps the only man mentioned for the Presidential nomination who has emphasized the necessity of an active policy in European affairs. He has said he would support the World Court, not because it would cure the ills that Europe is heir to, but because it is a step in the right direction. He has said that, while the League of Nations was, at the time it was up in the Senate, likewise a step in the right direction—still, the complexion of European affairs had so altered and the condition there so materially changed that it would not serve now as when at first proposed. He says further, that in 1925, when the new President is sworn in, conditions may be again so changed that it would be idle at this time to say just what should be the course of the United States. But on one thing he is clear and emphatic—namely, that this country must in some way go to the aid of disintegrating Europe. The richest and most powerful nation in the world cannot see civilization crumble into dust without coming to its aid.

Concerning the third issue, liberalism of spirit, Senator Underwood's record of thirty years is the best exposition of his possession of a liberal spirit. He has always voted for sane, safe, and progressive measures within the limits of the Constitution. And his wisdom in this respect has been proved on various occasions, as, for instance, in his negative vote on the Child Labor Bill, which the United States Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional, and which only served to raise false hopes in its advocates.

Underwood Fills a Big Order

THE "big order" to which Mr. Milton refers—that of placing the heavier burden of taxation on those best able to carry it, the battering down of tariff rates, the extension of markets for the farmer, and the reduction of taxes—is what Mr. Underwood has been fighting for during the whole of his public career. Everybody who reads knows this to be true. His name is on probably the greatest measure, looking to the results enumerated, that has ever been written.

As to the fourth issue, that of aid for the farmer, Senator Underwood has declared repeatedly in his addresses to the people that the iniquitous Fordney tariff and the do-nothing foreign policy of the Administration have deprived the farmer of his markets abroad, left him with a surplusage of crops, and thereby lowered his prices in the home markets.

The last issue is Muscle Shoals, upon which it is quite needless to dilate so far as the Senator from Alabama is concerned. His attitude on this question has been one of entire sympathy with the people of the South, and especially with the farming element. In his support of this measure, too, the people may rely implicitly on a faithful and proficient safeguarding of their interests by Senator Underwood.

So are the five questions disposed of which, it is said, must be satisfactorily answered by any candidate who seeks the support of the South.

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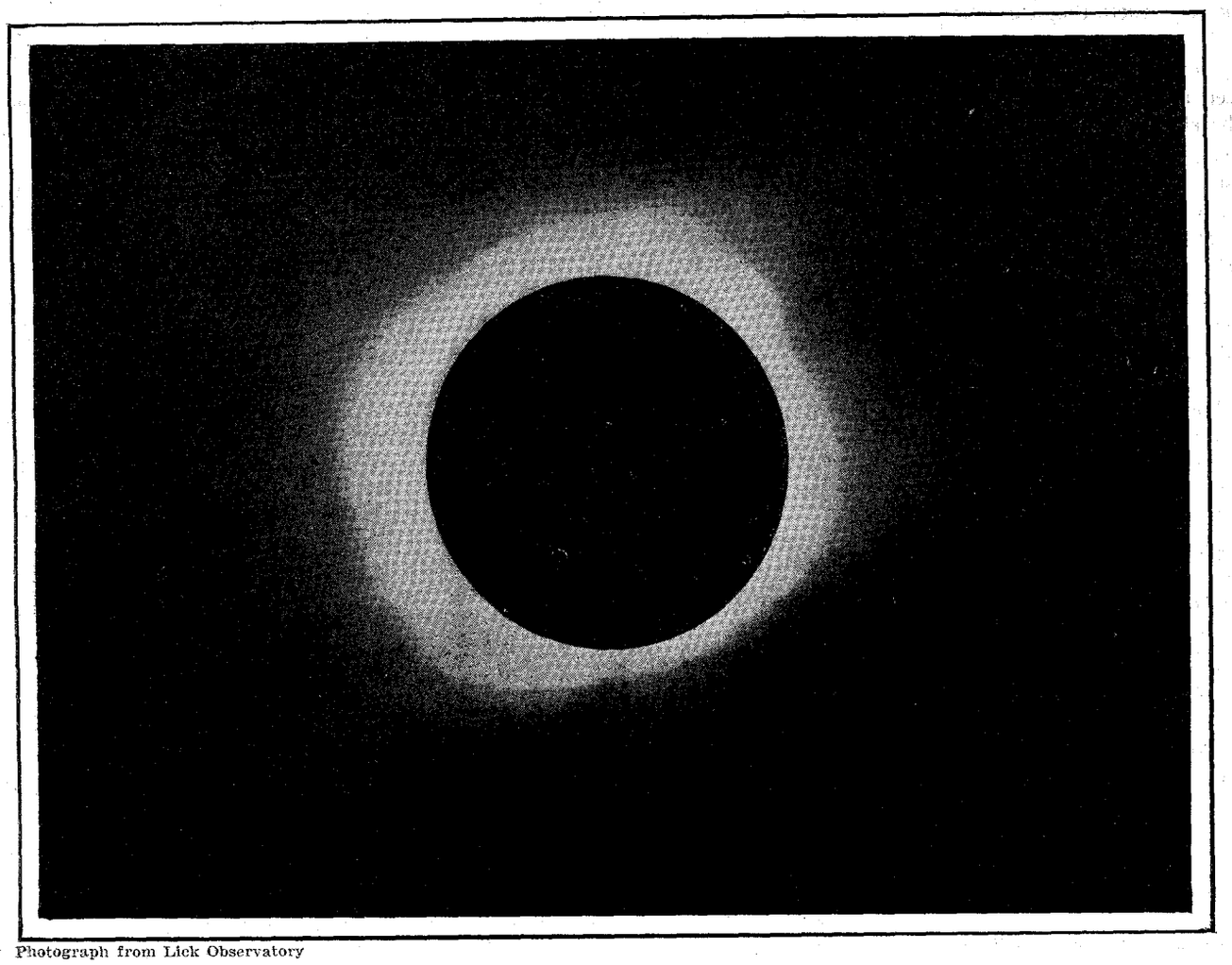

Photograph from Lick Observatory

A total eclipse of the sun in 1868 revealed the presence of a previously unknown gas in the solar atmosphere. To-day we are using it to fill airships

Helium[1]

By CHARLES FITZHUGH TALMAN

THIRTY years ago the nearest known specimen of the gas with which we are now filling airships was in the atmosphere of the sun, ninety-two million miles away from Lakehurst. The name "helium" (from ἥλιος, the sun) commemorates the discovery of this gas in the year 1868, during a total eclipse, when the spectroscope, then a new adjunct of astronomical research, was turned for the first time upon the ruddy fringe around the solar disk known as the "chromosphere." Later many stars were found to be rich in it, but no trace was known on earth.

In 1895 Sir William Ramsay brought helium nearer home by discovering a little of it in the mineral cleveite. Other discoveries followed thick and fast. Humanity had, it appeared, been breathing helium from the beginning of time, for it is present in air, though only in the minute proportion of one part in 185,000. Other terrestrial sources of helium were located, but it remained a chemical rarity. Before the year 1918 probably not more than 100 cubic feet of the gas had been produced in the whole world, although it was already in active demand because of interesting things chemists were doing with it in the laboratory. Six years ago helium cost about $2,000 a cubic foot; at which rate the amount the Navy recently fed into the airship Shenandoah at the Lakehurst hangar would have been worth upwards of four billion dollars.

Here are some interesting facts about helium, ascertained while it was still a scarce commodity:

Next to hydrogen it is the lightest substance known. It conducts an electric current better than any other gas except neon. Chemically it is so inert that it will combine with no other element. Strangest fact of all—it does not begin its life as helium, but is produced by the breaking up of radioactive substances; slowly from uranium, very rapidly from radium.

In July, 1908, came the thrilling announcement that Professor Kamerlingh Onnes, of the University of Leyden, already famous for his feats in liquefying other atmospheric gases, had produced liquid helium, at a temperature of 452° below zero Fahrenheit. To this day it has never been frozen solid.

Then came the war. Unlike certain other gases, helium did not figure in the war news. Behind the scenes chemists were busy finding a military use for it, but helium never appeared upon the stage. A substitute was sought for the

[1] An editorial on the conservation of helium will be found elsewhere in this issue.

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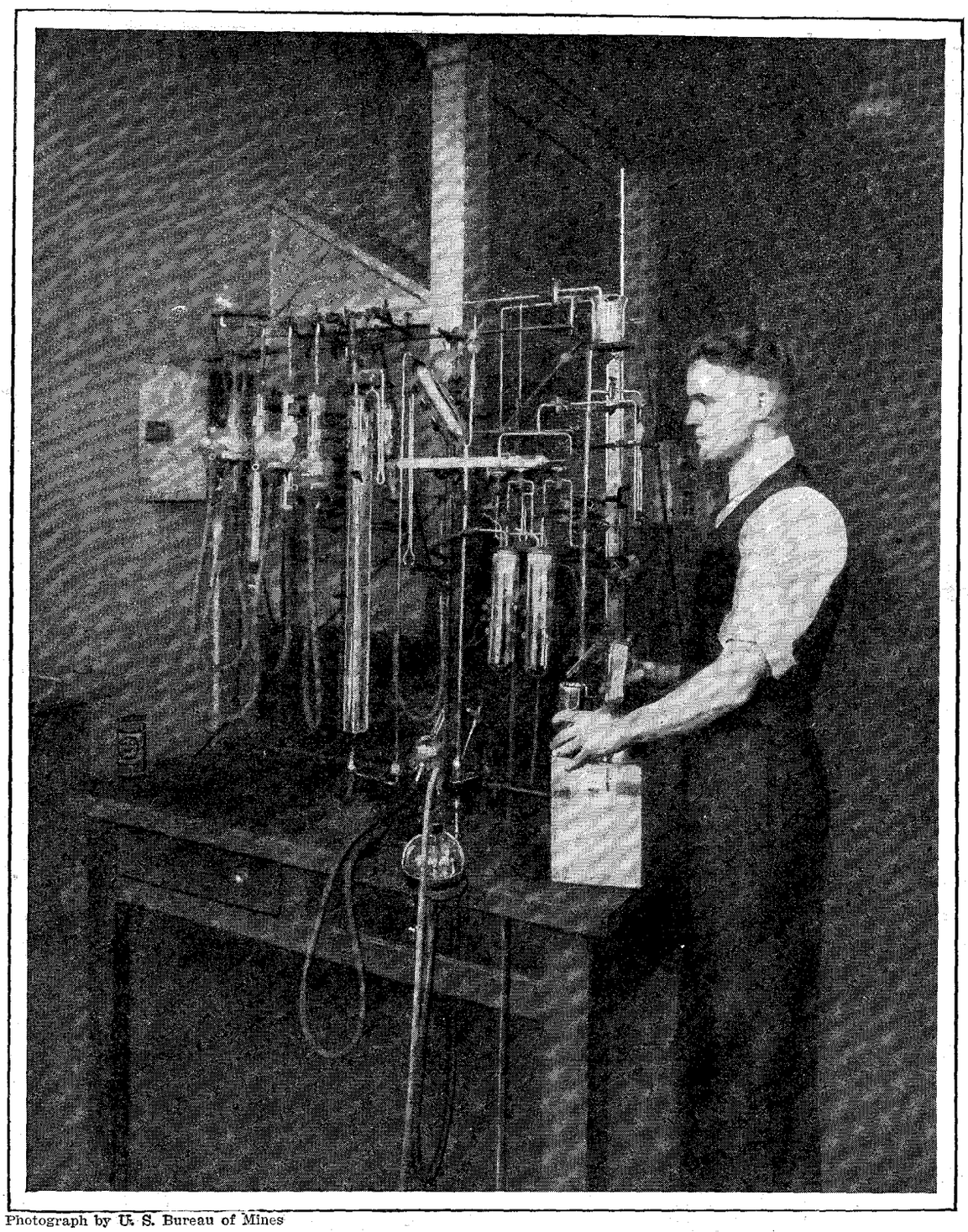

Photograph by U. S. Bureau of Mines

Testing Samples of Natural Gas for Helium

in the Cryogenic Laboratory of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. The Government has made a comprehensive inventory of the helium resources of natural gas fields throughout the country. Most natural gas contains only a minute trace of helium, but there are a few wells in which the percentage runs as high as one or two per cent. No country but the United States now yields natural gas rich enough in helium to be worth treating for the recovery of this substance, except perhaps under war conditions. Gas from certain Canadian fields ranks second. The helium used in filling the Shenandoah is obtained in northern Texas from gas that averages nearly one per cent helium

dangerously inflammable and explosive gas hydrogen, used in filling balloons. Helium was suggested. Though twice as heavy as hydrogen, both substances are so light in comparison with air that helium has 93 per cent as much lifting force as the lighter gas. The slight difference in buoyancy is offset by the fact that helium does not diffuse nearly so rapidly through a balloon fabric as does hydrogen.

As early as the year 1907 rather large percentages of helium had been reported in natural gas from certain fields in this country; a fact not then considered of practical importance. In 1918 two experimental plants for extracting helium from natural gas were erected in Canada and three in Texas. The latter were camouflaged under the name of "argon" plants, and their real purpose was not disclosed until after the war. The Armistice came before the output of these plants could be used.

The present situation is this:

So far as we know, the United States has a monopoly of natural gas fields that yield enough helium (from 0.5 to 2 per cent of the gas) to be worth extraction. Our few promising fields have been located, and at the present session of Congress legislation ought to be enacted to conserve their output. The Government now has a single large helium production plant, at Fort Worth, Texas, designed to produce 1,000,000 cubic feet of helium a month. The method of extraction was evolved from the process of making liquid air. The other constituents of natural gas are liquefied at low temperature, the helium remaining gaseous. Improvements in the process are expected to reduce the cost of production from 10 cents a cubic foot, the present figure, to 3 cents.

It will still be more than ten times as costly as hydrogen. Whether, at this price, the Government is justified in using two million cubic feet of it to fill the Shenandoah, in place of perilous hydrogen, depends upon the valuation placed upon the lives of the two-score gallant sailors who are bent upon exploring polar wastes from the air.

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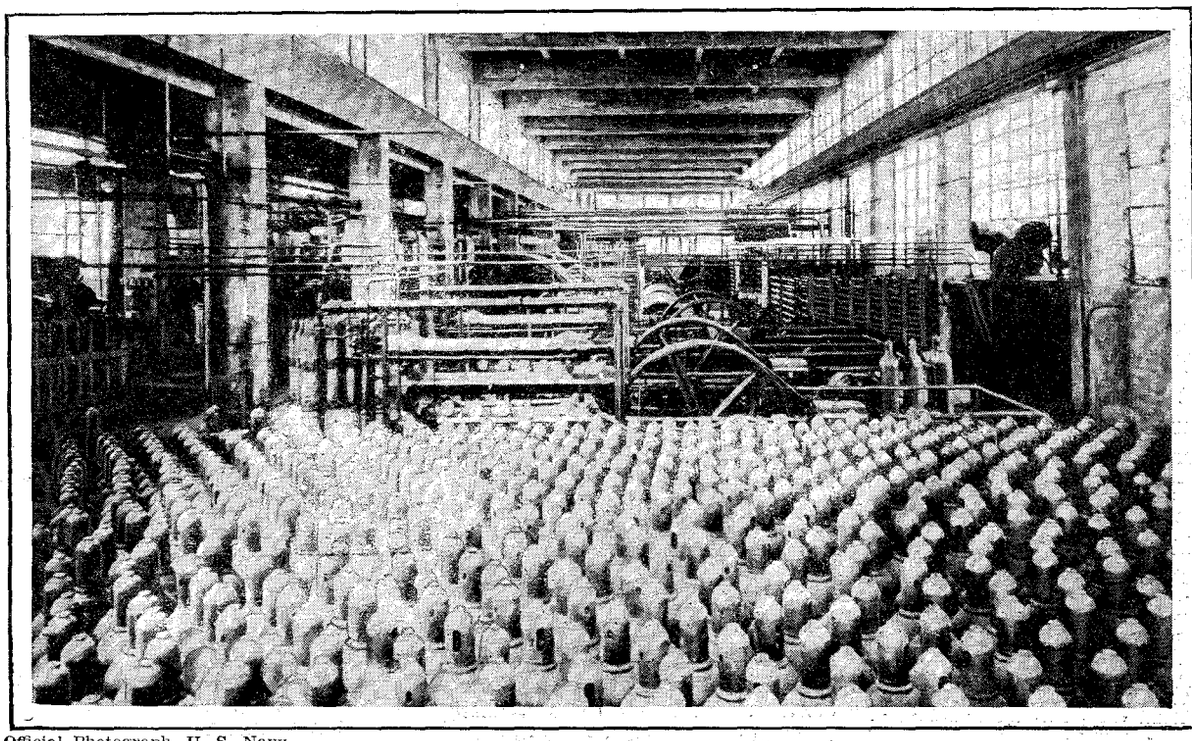
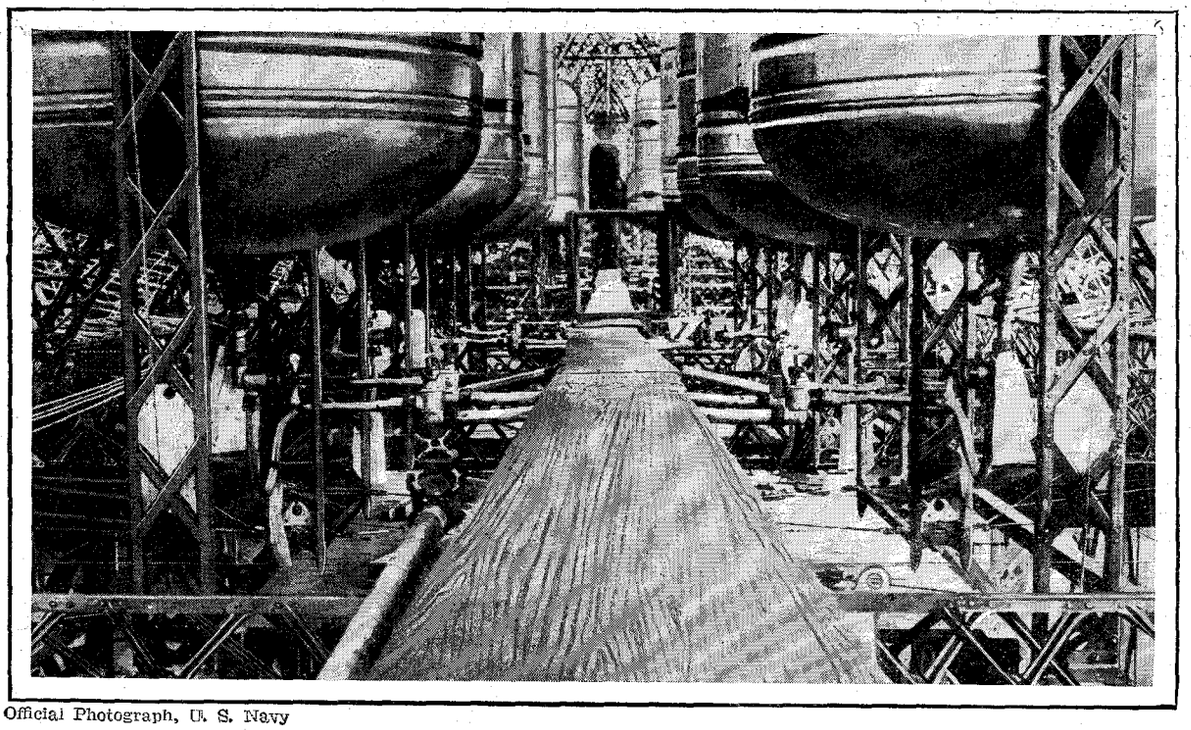


Official Photograph, U. S. Navy

Helium Production Plant at Fort Worth, Texas

Cylinders of helium in the foreground; air compressors in the rear. The helium is extracted by a freezing process from the regular natural gas supply of Fort Worth, without impairing the fuel value of the gas; in fact, the removal of this non-combustible element slightly improves the gas for burning. During the World War the Government had three experimental helium plants in Texas, then described as "argon" plants in order to camouflage their real purpose. The present plant is designed to produce a million cubic feet a month. The total production up to last November was about 8,000,000 cubic feet, nearly four times the amount required to fill the gas-bags of the Shenandoah



Official Photograph, U. S. Navy

Fuel Tanks of the Shenandoah

Balloons and airships filled with the highly inflammable gas hydrogen fall an easy prey to the engines of war. Even in time of peace the hydrogen may be ignited by lightning, as probably happened in the recent case of the Dixmude. Lastly, the motors and gasoline tanks of an airship are dangerously near the hydrogen-filled gas-bags. The substitution of helium for hydrogen eliminates the danger of a serious fire. The Shenandoah, during her longest trip, last October, carried more than 4,000 gallons of gasoline, but consumed only five-sixths of a gallon per mile. The total fuel bill for a journey of 2,200 miles was only $150—a small fraction of what it costs to run a steamship or a railway train the same distance. The above picture, taken during construction, shows rough planks laid temporarily along the walkway of the ship

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When the Klan Rules

The Plan to Capture Washington

By STANLEY FROST

THE coming National election, unless very carefully laid plans of the Ku Klux leaders miscarry, will make the Klan masters of Washington, with all that implies both in our Government and our National life. The hooded order expects to rule America, not only by controlling thousands of local governments, but from the very top down, by controlling the National Government. It expects, as a result of the coming election, to have in Congress a clear majority of members in both houses who are in sympathy with its aims or at least willing to vote for its programme, and in the White House a President who will at the very least put no obstacle in the way of the Klan demands, and appoint to office no man the Klan disapproves, and who may actually be a member and a willing servant of the organization!

Impossible, you say? Too sudden, too incredible! Yet the Klan is very likely to succeed in doing just this. On the basis of cold political calculation, the Klan is at least as likely to win as any one of the different Presidential candidates now before the public, as likely to win as is either one of the two big political parties! For the plans of the Ku Klux leaders go behind the detail of party victory, and can succeed whichever of the two wins. There are still many things that can defeat it, of course; it has no assurance of victory. But this thing is sure: In all the welter of issues and scandals and plottings which will come between now and November, the Klan is almost certain to have the greatest influence in deciding the result.

For in the election the Klan, as a mugwump minority solidly united and under military discipline, will exert a tremendous power. This will be subject, to be sure, to the offset of whatever union the anti-Klan groups may be able to effect. But remember that the Klan now has 4,500,000 members, that it is likely to have 9,000,000, and expects to have 12,000,000 by November. Then consider that in the Presidential elections during the present century (doubling the figures before 1920 to allow for the doubled voting strength under woman suffrage) the average plurality for the winning party has been only a little over 3,500,000, so that an average change of 1,800,000 votes would have changed every election. In many cases a change of 750,000 would have been enough.

POLITICIANS are guessing at the strength of the Klan, and guessing what the Klan will do with that strength. In this article, the last of his series, Mr. Frost sums up the possibilities that lie in the hidden activities of the Klan in the coming Presidential campaign.

Thrown in the Balance

CONSIDER also that in most Congressional districts a majority of 10,000 is rare and that in normal years a plurality of 50,000 for a State ticket is high; that a shift of 5,000 in a Congressional district and of 25,000 in a State would far more often than not have changed the result. Finally, remember that this is a year when all politicians expect a close vote. It is plain that if the Klan can make even a fraction of its members take its advice and can escape solid and effective oppositions it may very easily win overwhelmingly.

It is true that the very considerable ability of the Klan to use almost full strength in local elections must be heavily discounted in considering State and National votes. In the local elections party loyalty is comparatively weak, while in National campaigns it will have a powerful hold on all but the most ardent Klansmen. How far the Klan "education" will be able to swing the members in the partisan heat of a National campaign is a very doubtful question, and there has been no demonstration of strength along this line on which an answer might be based. Politicians and political observers disagree on the answer; most of them declare that the Klan can be safely defied, but few of them act that way. But, after all discounts, it seems safe to say that if the Klan can control a quarter of its nominal strength it can win in most places.

All this, however, does not mean that the Klan intends or wants to rule the country in the full sense, in the sense in which a political party takes political control. On the contrary, its aims are very strictly limited, at least for the time being. Dr. Evans states its position in two sentences which are apparently contradictory.

"The Klan is not in politics," he and other leaders have told me over and over. Yet he goes on: "It is clear that the Klan programme must result in political action and can be carried out in no other way."

This is not actually a contradiction. His meaning is that the Klan works in politics, not as a party, but as a mugwump, non-partisan, opportunist band of guerrilla reformers. It does not want—at least not yet—the full responsibilities of government, it does not want to face the need of apportioning patronage; it does not wish to have to find solutions for all the controversial issues now in politics and to try to unite its following on them; and, finally, it does not have to hold its organization together, as a political party does, by the use of place, pork, and pie.

What it does want is to get certain things done—a most unusual political purpose in these days; to free itself from Government opposition, to put into effect its programme of native, white, Protestant Americanism, to make some general reforms, and to be able to claim a victory. It is playing for results alone, while the ordinary political party must play chiefly for offices. In this sense the Klan is not in politics.

But the Klan must be able to control officials and Legislatures if it is to put into effect any of the policies on either its National programme or its local platforms, or even if it is to make more than a temporary success out of the minor victories it has achieved so far. In this sense it is very completely in politics.

This self-denying attitude in regard to spoils and full power is not due to virtue alone. It is forced by the very nature of the Klan itself, by the fact that the membership is almost equally divided between Democrat and Republican. The moment that any attempt is made to take up issues which have become partisan, or even which are outside the platform on which the Klan has been built and is united, the moment that its power is turned to picking plums, above all, at the first suspicion that its leaders are favor-

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ing either party—at that moment its membership would be split into a dozen bickering factions and its power would vanish. The Klan may be able to win on its present limited programme, but it cannot, on the basis of any development now in sight, attempt anything more.

This is equally true whether the leaders recognize it or not. If Dr. Evans and the rest ever do yield to the constant pressure on them and "broaden out" the Klan plans, there will be another article to write about it—an obituary notice. Its dying struggles might, it is true, produce results in strange fields, but till they begin the Klan can have almost no political effect outside its chosen ground.

The Danger of Easy Victory

THERE is proof of this in the fall of the Know-Nothings, to revert once more to that ill-fated forerunner of the Klan. The sudden collapse of that movement was directly due to the mistake of attempting too much. So long as the organization remained secret and stuck to its own issues, it grew fast and wielded a mighty power. But the early successes went to the heads of the leaders and they came into the open as the American Party. For a year or two their power did increase, but by that time the seeds of trouble had germinated and ripened. Internal jealousies had festered; the attempt to graft on new issues had split off large sections; the desire for offices, the disputes over patronage, and the compromises made to gather votes all took the life out of the original purposes. In the end an effort to straddle on the slavery issue, in an attempt to save votes, gave the death-blow.

The movement would have been destroyed just as surely, however, whichever way it turned. The mistake was in getting into a position where it was forced to take a stand on any issue different from the one which had built it up, in forgetting that a movement based on one strong idea will be cut in two as soon as another strong idea is foisted into its counsels.

The more important of the Klan leaders recognize this limitation, and have no desire to attempt to break away from it.

"If the Klan should ever make the fatal mistake of identifying itself with either party," Dr. Evans told me, "or with any cause except the fundamental issue of Americanism, it would invite division in its own ranks, destroy its own power, and insure its own dismemberment."

Many Klansmen, however, even many of the lesser leaders, do not see this or are willing to ignore it for selfish reasons. Both the fanatics and grafters are continually urging a diversion of strength to side-issues, and the struggle with these people demands much of the strength of the National officers, and gives the best reason possible for the autocratic and centralized control of the Klan under which they can be kept in check.

The actual voting strength of the Klan, great as that is, is only a part of the political power through which it is likely to accomplish its purposes. As great, if not greater, is the effect it can have privately on candidates, on officials after they are elected, and, above all, on bosses. These politicians, of whatever grade, cannot tell how many votes the Klan might cast, they cannot by any means be sure of an offsetting support if they antagonize the Klan, and they are open to the non-political pressure which the Klan can apply so effectively. Their easiest course by far will always be to fall in with the Klan's demands. This form of terrorism in politics, of threat of reprisal combined with promise of reward, is a common feature of our political maneuvering, but the Klan can use it with unprecedented force.

It is already doing so. I have not yet met a single minor politician who is willing to speak openly against the Klan, and except for a few of the Democratic leaders and Colonel Roosevelt, Jr.—a possible candidate in a State where the Klan is weak and alien opposition would be fatal—there is no record of any of them taking such a stand recently, though it was fashionable enough two years ago. The success of the Klan in so many local elections and the greater threat behind it to-day have upset the calculations of politicians everywhere and have thrown local bosses in many places into a truly demoralized state of mind.

A Threat to Politicians

"YOU talk about the Klan terrifying folks," an Imperial officer said. "We don't aim to, except one bunch—the politicians. We do that thing. They're scared senseless right now—big ones as well as little ones. They don't know which end they're standing on, and they duck every time any one says 'Klan.' They're scared, terrified, paralyzed, buffaloed, licked!"

This is quite true. Thousands of them are in a state such that if the Klan offers them salvation on any terms they will seize it gratefully. There is, for instance, the case of a man who for a generation has ruled half a State by the good old system of controlling nominations in both parties, and then allowing the voters to worry about which of his pets they shall elect. Last fall he woke up the day after election to find that both of his hand-picked beauties had been snowed under by a man whose name he had not even heard. His bewilderment and distress were piteous. He is still in a daze, as if the sun had risen in the west, the United States Government had gone bankrupt, and fire had turned cold all at once. He will listen very, very carefully to such advice and hints as the Klan will presently give him about delegates to the National Conventions and next fall's candidates. He is one of a great host.

Leading Politicians to the Dotted Line

THE Klan system is just as effective where there are rival bosses or unbossed rival candidates, either in the election or the primaries. Each knows that to win he must have a few dozen or hundred or thousand votes in addition to his regular strength, and hold all that strength. To each of these the Klan goes, saying, in effect:

"We control a large number of votes. We won't tell you how many; you can do your own guessing. But some of them you have counted in your own support and some are against you. We can throw the whole block either way. We also know many things about your private affairs, and have influence with many of your business customers and associates. Here, then, is a pledge that will satisfy us. Sign on the dotted line."

How many will dare refuse? And of those who do dare, how many will the Klan be able to beat? These are the questions that must be answered before one can estimate the Klan's chances of victory this fall.

Only a partial answer is possible now. In local elections where the party loyalty is weak and National issues do not enter the system should work almost perfectly, for the reasons already given, until or unless the opposition not only unites but finds out what to do. This system has resulted in the hundreds of victories already mentioned, and will undoubtedly win hundreds more.

Nationally, it will work far less perfectly. In so far as the Klan can work in the primaries and conventions of both parties and succeed in choosing both candidates it will succeed completely. This will happen in a good many cases. It will certainly put a good many Klan candidates into Congress. It may even win the power to choose who shall run for President on both tickets, or at least to say who shall not run. Its chance of doing this is best in the Democratic Convention, where a third of the delegates can prevent the nomination of any particular man.

But if it wins only half success in the

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primaries and can nominate men who are satisfactory on one but not on both tickets either for Congress or the Presidency, further success will be more doubtful. To win then it would have to induce a vast number of men and women to break their old party ties, which would be one of the greatest feats in political history. It probably could win a close election; it could hardly do so if the issues or the candidates got any great grip on the public. Still, people are not voting as regularly as they used to, and a good many of the Kluxers are one-time Progressives, who have learned how to bolt.

Why Gray Hairs Grow

THESE are the factors in a problem that is making gray hair for National leaders in both parties. They know that the alien groups have little party loyalty and will swing *en masse* behind a plank attacking the Klan. They know that the Klansmen, especially in the South, have always been so party bound that even an anti-Klan plank could hardly make them change, but they cannot be quite sure that the Klan influence might not do it this time. They cannot guess, either, how many Klansmen might be led across the party line by a pro-Klan plank that would drive off all the aliens. The problem is to decide whether pro-Klan, anti-Klan, or silence will be most profitable. The problem, it will be seen, is different for the two parties, because the bulk of the alien vote is now normally Democratic.

One more point should be noted. Although the Klan question will be uppermost in the minds of local politicians in over half the country, and will have a vital and perhaps deciding effect on the whole situation, it will be kept in the background as far as possible. Neither the Klan leaders nor the politicians who are either with them or against them or on the fence want it brought into the open. It will inevitably break out in spots, but, on the whole, we face an election in which one of the most important and decisive factors will be almost invisible and inaudible.

And if the Klan wins? That will mean, in the first place, the enactment of its National programme; restriction of immigration and naturalization, vigorous encouragement and some "reform" of the public schools, perhaps some economy and "good government" gestures, and the barring from office of Jews, Catholics, and alien-born. On other things the Klan will have no hold on the officials or the Legislatures, and must let the winning party programme take its course.

The Klan leaders might, of course, develop delusions of grandeur, run wild, meddle with many things, and even try to persecute some one. But they will not do this in their present temper, and they are very unlikely to try. Against excesses stands, in the first place, the saving sense of fairness which has held America back time and again in crises. There is also the well-known fact that responsibility usually makes leaders more sober rather than more reckless. And there is the final fact, already explained, that if they do try to involve the Klan in new issues it will go to pieces.

They will be pressed to "broaden out" by the fanatics and grafters inside the Klan and by advisers outside, who will lay before them many and plausible schemes. Some such efforts are already making trouble inside the Klan. The leaders will lose some of their followers with each refusal to support any folly, though less than if they adopt it. They will also begin to lose as soon as they have put through their programme, since the Klan is a limited reform movement, and, as Horace Greeley said of the "Know-Nothings," "It would seem as devoid of the elements of persistence as an anti-cholera or anti-potato-rot party." So there is a very strong probability that the Klan, which almost requires a victory to live after election, will find that victory is just as sure a road to destruction, if a little slower.

The result in local elections will be about the same. The Klan record so far shows that these victories will mostly be with reform tickets, and most of the successes it has won have resulted in better local governments. But such victories, as America has dearly learned, are also short-lived, however useful. There will be vigorous clean-ups, some economies, some ousting of non-Klan people from power, and then a restful pause. There are many signs that this is already happening in places where the Klan strength developed earliest.

The Beginning of the End

SO, either Nationally or locally, the fall election would seem to be the beginning of the end of the Klan on its present basis, whether it wins or loses. The leaders expect to make the organization permanent after its immediate issues have passed, through its educational and good citizenship programme and some vague plans for governmental reforms. This might be done, but this programme so far is so nebulous that it presents no basis for forming any conclusions. It would make of the Klan a very different organization.

I should like in concluding this series to make a few general observations about the Klan which do not rest on definite proof and which may be no more than personal opinions, though I believe them more important than that.

Probably the Nation will Survive!

THE first is that the Klan is no very hideous menace. It can do much harm, beyond doubt, and will do some. The prejudices it has released, the turmoil it has aroused, its wrong principles and wrong methods, are all dangerous and might be serious indeed. Perhaps I am a little weary of many menaces, but in spite of these things I cannot see that it is likely to do any great or irreparable damage.

For one thing, we can depend very largely on the general good sense and fairness of the members. They are not a mob, nor naturally cruel or unjust. The flare of prejudice will die quickly unless fed from outside. One correspondent declares that if the Klan is not suppressed it will be burning convents in New York City, as was done by a mob in the thirties. If this is possible, then the government of New York City is distinctly alien and needs overhauling, even as the Klan says. But I cannot believe it possible, even with all allowances for what the mob spirit may do with ordinarily decent folks. And the Klan leaders I have seen would be the first to stop such an outrage if the city government failed.

In the second place, the Klan is getting better. Some of its worst features are almost gone, others are going. The leaders, of a more balanced type than at first, are being sobered by power, and the better-class membership that has recently joined is taking control.

As to an "invisible government," that seems sheer nonsense. The Klan is a reform movement, working largely through politics, using the usual political methods. Any group control of government is a menace, but we have survived a good many of them, some of which were invisible, and the Klan is not the worst of the lot. Our system provides the means by which any group can be ousted if it gets too strong or overbearing, and the Klan itself is proof of this, since it is a reaction against other groups which have had much power and used it unwisely. Its political programme may be wrong, but it is negative. If it does stop immigration, for example, and we find that we need more aliens, the lack can very easily be supplied.

Besides all this, the Klan can hardly live long in anything much like its present form. It is a protest movement, a reform drive, and as such is almost certain to be killed by either success or failure. It has, besides, within itself the elements of sure decay, grounds for dis-

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sension, for jealousies, for division. Moreover, it is too high-pitched; no body of men can long hold the camp-meeting fervor which the Klan now boasts without a complete reaction. It may be changed in ways which will give it longer life, but that is a possibility outside the scope of this report.

It seems clear, too, that the Klan is doing much good along with the harm. Its local reforms are likely to be as temporary as the fervor and prejudices it has aroused, but they can at least be set off against those evils. And its services in stirring up thought and focusing attention on the evils which now threaten Americanism are very great. This might lead to solutions, even if the Klan does not find them or bring them itself.

For all these reasons it is probable that the Klan, in spite of its obvious evils and dangers, is far less likely to destroy the Nation or to do it serious injury than are several other of our present menaces. It could not begin to do the damage, for example, that is possible from a real coalition of alien elements which is almost as likely as is the Klan to win control of the government; it is far less dangerous than is the state of mind which permits some of the country's most trusted officers to use their places as stepping-stones to jobs where their political friendships can be cashed in at a high figure; less dangerous than the far more common attitude that in politics the standard of conduct is neither justice, fairness, nor public service, but what can be "got away with;" less dangerous even than our usual custom of judging public men and giving them our support with regard not at all for their ability or value to the country as a whole, but solely for their willingness to scratch our own personal backs and their success in doing it. Since we have been able to survive all these other menaces, we can probably recover from the Klan!

A Menace to Needed Reform

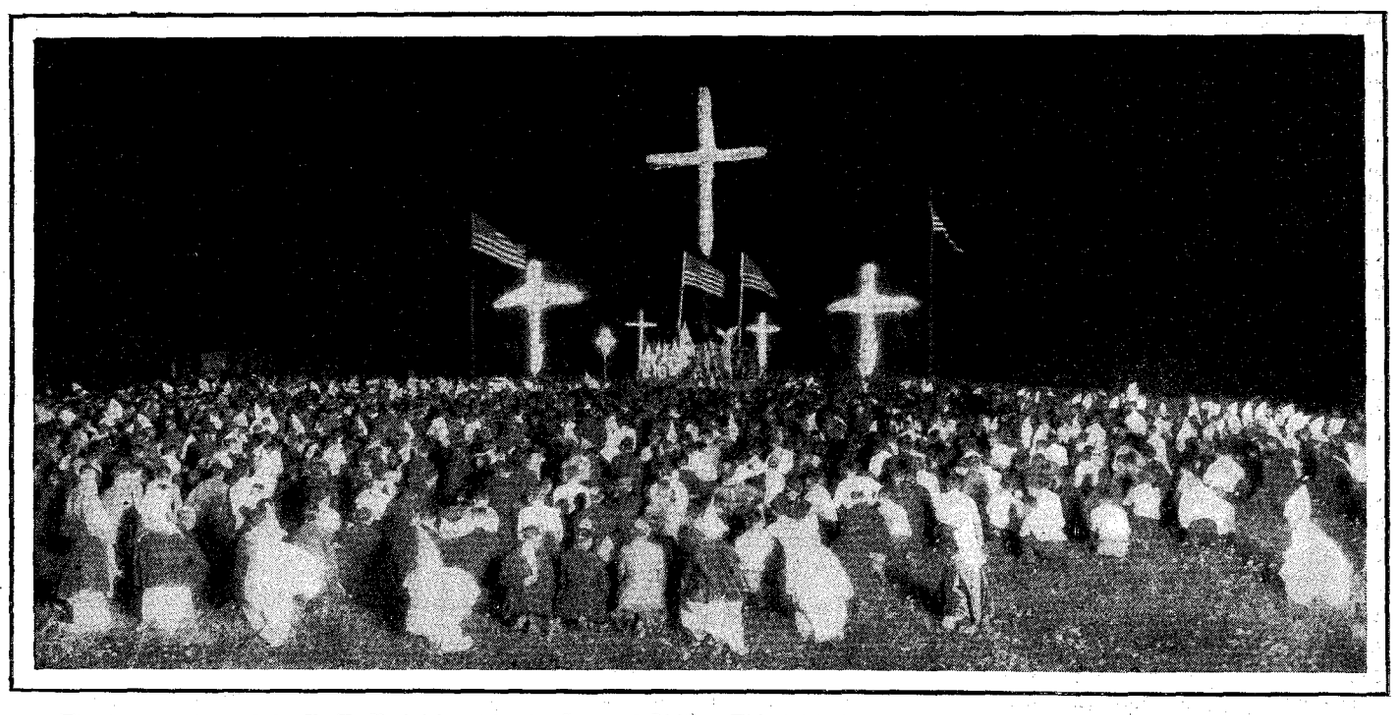
THE most serious menace and evil which really lies in the Klan movement is quite different from any of the fears and alarms usually shrieked about. It is that the Klan may prevent reforms which are bitterly needed. There is an urgent demand for some drastic action to stop the flood of unassimilable immigration, to Americanize or restrict the powers of the alien groups which are deliberately hostile to Americanism, to meet and defeat the influences which are trying to pervert and degrade American thought and purpose. The danger is that the Klan, by attacking these real problems by wrong methods and with wrong solutions, by the fact that it is likely to attempt queer and lunk-headed schemes from very inexperience and to try to solve delicate and complicated tangles by rule of thumb and "horse sense," may discredit all other efforts to solve them, and open the way for a period of alien and un-American domination that will wreck forever the National purposes and opportunities built up at such cost.

I have been asked by several people whether there is behind the Klan some mighty, Machiavellian brain, controlling the movement and directing it to hidden and possibly Satanic ends. I have seen no sign of anything like this. The leaders with whom I have talked speak as those having authority in themselves, and there is certainly no Machiavellian brain among them. On the other hand, they are apparently overwhelmed with their own success, vastly sobered by it, troubled as to what to do with it, fearful of leading, but driven on by the force they have raised.

May I add a word of thanks to the many Outlook readers who have written to give me facts, advice, criticism, and sometimes commendation? All their letters have been helpful, particularly the criticisms, and I regret that it is impossible for me to answer and debate with each one.

My answer, however, would be about the same, both to the New Yorker who wrote, "The Klan never did any one any harm," and to the Florida preacher who declares that "We have had enough of shooting, whipping, and burning in the name of the Lord." The answer is that the Klan is so vast and varied an organization that almost everything that any one has said about it, good or bad, is true in spots. I have told of no sins that are not admitted by its own officers, except where there is full proof, and of no virtues not conceded by some of its most vigorous enemies.

No fair reporter could do less, nor could he base his reports on the facts in any one locality or small group of localities, as each of my correspondents has done. I cannot hope that I have been able to be always fair, or always to find the full truth, and the one virtue I can claim for these articles is that they do tell all the essential facts that my limited abilities and a strong desire for fairness have been able to find.



The largest class of the K. K. K. initiated in the State of Ohio. This initiation took place in Clark County on June 25, 1923

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The Passing of Diphtheria

By Julia Houston Railey

AN earthquake gets plenty of publicity. The destructive forces of nature are dramatic and the whole world serves as breathless audience. Every one knows all the details within a few days: what the property losses are, how many people were killed or maimed.

But the constructive forces of science may perform a *coup* that affects the health of the race, that will save or safeguard more lives than have been lost in fifty earthquakes, that provides the means of stamping out one of the deadliest scourges of man. And, speaking generally, the great majority have still to learn about it after ten years.

Under the preoccupied noses of the people of New York City, chief theater for this particular scientific drama, a tremendous experiment, which is now an even more tremendous certainty, has been staged and enacted in the last decade. The public has yet to realize its magnitude and far-reaching implications.

To be sure, the mothers of thousands of school-children, not only in New York but in other cities, notably Boston and Chicago, know all about it, since they signed consent blanks permitting their youngsters to be Schick tested in the schools for susceptibility to diphtheria and, if found susceptible, vaccinated with the "new" serum, and thus immunized for life against the dread disease. Presumably all the doctors and health authorities in the country know about it by this time, as do multitudes of nurses and institution inmates who have been thus protected against diphtheria. Moreover, the instructed few who read medical journals and keep abreast of scientific discovery are doubtless aware of it. Yet the mass of the people and the mass of the news print remain unleavened by this especial batch of yeast from the laboratories of science.

Some echoes of the work have reached the press, it is true, though mostly in the form of routine accounts of medical gatherings, appropriations made and reports rendered by experts—the kind of inconspicuous news items skipped by readers pausing between the headlines and the sporting page or society column. So perhaps it is not surprising that the man and woman on the street, dodging in pursuit of their daily bread (or *hors d'œuvre*) raucous taxicabs or looming busses, harassed amid a bedlam of interests and duties by their immediate jobs, are vague on the subject of the struggle now being waged to eradicate diphtheria.

THE news that sixteen thousand children had died in the collapse of a convention hall would echo round the world. Yet the word that these same sixteen thousand children may be saved from death hardly gets into the headlines at all. That is one of the reasons why it gets into The Outlook.

This effort, which is fairly recent, must not be confused with the discovery and common use since 1894 of antitoxin as a cure for the disease. People know the main facts about antitoxin: it is fluid drawn from the blood serum of horses which have been rendered immune to diphtheria by a series of mild, graduated inoculations or injections into them of diphtheria toxin, the poisonous product of the diphtheria germ or bacillus. The horses' blood gradually develops a natural substance resistant to the toxin injected in the mild doses described, and that substance is antitoxin, which may be painlessly extracted from the horse and harmlessly injected into human beings. Not a pretty-sounding process, but an eminently sensible, safe, and cleanly one as it is practiced. It is injected into persons subcutaneously or in the blood stream, and not into the spinal cord, like meningitis serum. It is used in two classes of cases—those having diphtheria and those directly exposed to it. The former it cures if used early enough in sufficient dosage, properly given; the latter it renders immune to the disease, but only for such time—two or three weeks—as the actual antitoxin serum remains in the body. After that the person may be as liable to infection as before.

But the chief objection to antitoxin from the point of view of prevention is not so much that its immunizing effect is temporary as that it is too certain a cure! Doctors and laymen had come to bank on it too heavily, losing interest in prevention. "Don't be alarmed if you are exposed and catch diphtheria. Antitoxin will positively cure you." It is this attitude that has been partly responsible for a very disquieting fact: while the diphtheria death rate in America had dropped, owing to the use of antitoxin, from 45 to 50 persons in 100 cases to 7 to 10 persons in 100, the number of cases had not dropped proportionately and the 10 per cent death rate had finally become stationary. Diphtheria still kills in the United States yearly about 20,000 people out of 150,000 to 200,000 stricken, 80 to 85 per cent of these being children under six years. For antitoxin is, after all, only a positive cure when given in the first stages of the disease. If people wait too long, in uncertainty as to what is the matter with a patient, before applying to a physician for serum treatment, or if the physician should not diagnose the case correctly once he takes charge of it and should fail to give the serum promptly, that patient will probably die. Yet he may recover because of receiving even a belated dosage, but very frequently he will recover only to be maimed by paralysis, heart or kidney trouble, or, unknown to him, perhaps, by such an impairment of the vitality of his organs that in middle life he is more than apt to be stricken down by one of the maladies of heart, lungs, kidneys, or blood-vessels common to that age.

Prior to 1913, then, when Dr. Béla Schick, of Vienna, published his test for susceptibility to diphtheria, and von Behring, the German discoverer of antitoxin, proposed a new method of vaccination or immunization with a new serum (a mild mixture of toxin and antitoxin, one almost neutralizing the effect of the other), the situation might be summarized as follows: A germ disease so easily carried that even healthy, unaffected school-children may take the bacilli home in their throats to infect little children, to whom the disease is most fatal; a large morbidity or case rate; a stationary death rate; no lasting protection against the menace or its terrible after effects; and a general, unjustified faith that antitoxin, the cure-all, would take care of it adequately.

That is the situation no longer.

At a New York Baby Health Station the other afternoon it was possible to observe a few small and vociferous proofs of this statement. One of them was a little Negro baby, eight months old, whimpering, more from a desire for attention than from any great physical anguish, for the mosquito bite of the Schick test which she had just extended her tiny arm to receive could not have hurt her especially. It is not a blood but a skin test. The visiting doctor, a lanky, intelligent young man on the diphtheria

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(C) Underwood

Dr. Zingher at work in a New York clinic

"We immunize these little fellows with three doses of vaccine. . . . Then they're safe— for life, we believe"

control staff of the New York City Health Department, had exercised the greatest care to insert his single drop of fluid, much-diluted toxin between the layers of the baby's skin, for to slip under the skin would simply mean no test. The test fluid would be lost. This baby was not receiving the ordinary first Schick test to determine whether she was immune or susceptible. It was a retest being given her six months after she had been vaccinated with the three injections to determine whether she had become immune.

"We don't bother to give the preliminary Schick test to babies under two," he stated. "They're all susceptible after they're about six months old. Up to six months they carry what's called passive immunity over from their mothers—when the mothers are 'negative;' but from six months to six years is the danger period. More than half die at that age if they catch it, you know, unless they're given antitoxin in a hurry. So we immunize these little fellows right off with the three doses of vaccine, and then Schick test them after six months' time to find out if it's successful. It always is. Oh, in about five per cent of cases they need two extra doses of vaccine, maybe. Then they're safe—for life, we believe."

"Just as safe as those whom your Schick test shows to be naturally immune to diphtheria?"

"Exactly. You see, Dr. Zingher, my chief" (Dr. Abraham Zingher is the man who has done the job in Manhattan and the Bronx. He is assistant to Dr. William H. Park, Director of Research Laboratories of the New York City Health Department and chief pioneer in this country in the study and control of diphtheria)—"Dr. Zingher has been Schicking twice a year for over seven years the inmates of a lot of New York State institutions whom he immunized years ago. And every time he tests them he finds them still immune. New inmates enter and may come down with diphtheria, if they are exposed to infection at any time, but these immunized people don't catch it from them. Not a single undoubted clinical case of diphtheria has developed in all these years among the 35,000 institution inmates in New York State who have been immunized. There's proof for you! It's been just the same with the thousands of school-children we've done. And the supposition that they're safe for life is pretty strong, isn't it?"

There seemed to be white magic, no less, in those miraculous, death-destroying, life-insuring fluids in their mysterious glass tubes, with the shining needles. A swift prick, now in the arm of this child, now of that, and the work of human salvage went on, quietly, in everyday, commonplace fashion. It was fascinating to watch the precision and deftness of the process in its various stages. There was an older child, a nonchalant young lady, by name Grace, in for observation four days after her preliminary Schick test.

"Positive," declared the doctor decidedly, studying a reddish spot about the size of a five-cent piece on her right forearm. It was the reaction. Two days ago, and again to-day, he had scrutinized her left arm with quite as much care because of the so-called control test given on that arm. This is a safety device invented and perfected by Dr. Zingher to enable one to distinguish with accuracy between the true, positive reaction and false or pseudo-reactions sometimes

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shown by older children and adults, due to slight irritation caused by protein substance in the test fluid. Failing of any guidance or formulas from von Behring, Drs. Zingher and Park have had to work out their own methods of vaccination and testing, to say nothing of devising and preparing their own immunizing vaccine and of altering the dilute toxin formula for the Schick test.

After more than ten years of research and experiment in perfecting a method and after its application in literally hundreds of thousands of cases, a technique as nearly infallible as the human equation will permit has been developed, which classifies cases with lightning rapidity. A whole school, say, with 2,400 pupils, can be Schicked in a school day, and four days later as swiftly be reexamined. The "negatives," who show false or no reactions, are safe for life and dismissed with a blessing; the "positives" are given within a week their first of three injections of vaccine, administered a week apart. Six months later they are, as previously stated, given a final Schick test and almost without exception found immune. The few exceptions are given more vaccine and made immune.

Children came and went in this health station, in company with their mothers. Most of them were in for their third and last injection of vaccine. They took it casually, as veterans should. All except one fat little boy, who clung to "mommer" and wailed. His "mommer" queried, with some anxiety: "But, doctor, do you suppose it took, with him? He hasn't been a bit sick."

The doctor's answer was: "Of course not. He's not supposed to get sick. They never do with this mild vaccine."

She broke into a relieved smile: "Ain't that fine?"

It was, indeed! Particularly when one knew that some 25,000 of these younger children have been tested and, if found susceptible, immunized in the 88 clinics and baby health stations operated by the Health Department, the New York Diet Kitchen, and a number of other organizations in the city. It is the young child, in fact, at whom the Health Department's diphtheria control campaign, begun on a large scale in 1921, has been aimed. That being true, it may seem strange that the big job has been done in the schools—almost all the public and parochial schools of Greater New York. But every school-child, of all the 500,000 so far tested and treated, who went home with a circular and later with a certificate of immunity was a missionary to parents. And their little brothers and sisters profited by the spread of that gospel of security. Else how account for the numberless voluntary applications of mothers for treatment for their babies at clinics and stations? How else account for a drop of twenty per cent in the case rate and twenty-five per cent in the death rate from diphtheria in New York City in 1922?

Dr. Zingher, however, makes the appallingly ambitious statement that all this is "a mere beginning." Diphtheria is to be wiped out everywhere! Seeing him—a most simple, quiet, unhurried man, not yet forty, deeply browned, serious, but with a laugh and a flash of white teeth now and then, betraying wholesome humor—it is impossible to realize that his placid, folded hands have themselves performed more than 170,000 tests and retests, and that he and Dr. Schroeder, of Brooklyn, with a staff of only eight to twelve doctors on part-time duty and as many full-time nurses, have safeguarded the lives of more than 500,000 children and adults in the city and State of New York. When he talks, with an accent, for he was born in Rumania, he makes the most difficult of research and experiment comprehensible by the power of his simplicity in thought and speech.

"What is next on your programme?" he was asked.

"Education of all the people," he smiled. But this, it developed, was not a vague plan, but a fairly detailed prospectus. The mothers came first. Whenever, from now on, a birth is registered in New York City, a card is to be mailed the mother telling her why and when to have her baby Schicked. Later, follow-up cards will be sent.

The physician is next. "The private physician must adopt Schick testing and immunization into his daily practice. But it is hard to bring that about. If the physician shows an active interest in converting his patients to the doctrine of diphtheria control, at once the cry of 'unprofessionalism' is raised against the poor fellow. He is 'out to drum up trade for himself,' and such foolishness. No, the health officer and his Department must take the lead in enlightening the people and in sending them to their private physicians, who must then be ready to serve them. New York City furnishes free test toxin and vaccine, with instructions, to doctors applying. All other cities and towns should do the same."

Next the schools. The work in schools is regarded as a temporary expedient only, a demonstration needed in any community to start an anti-diphtheria crusade, but eventually to be rendered unnecessary. "The problem of diphtheria control would be much nearer solution," he declared, "if ordinances could be passed making it compulsory that children *on entering school* should be given the Schick test, and if they give a positive reaction immunized with toxin-antitoxin. If this seemed wise to health departments and boards of education and could be brought about, no doubt most of the children would be Schick tested and immunized against diphtheria *long before the time for entering school.* This has proved true in the case of smallpox vaccination."

The hardest class to reach, according to Dr. Zingher, is—the poor? Not a bit of it. "The well-to-do, whose children do not attend free clinics, whose private physicians do not drum up trade for themselves, whose schools are sheltered, exclusive, private ones outside the public school campaigns. It would startle these 'fortunati' to learn that their supposedly sheltered children have a far lower percentage of natural immunity to diphtheria than the children of the poor in congested sections, frequently exposed to the disease, having numerous mild attacks, hardly recognizable as diphtheria but causing natural, resistant antitoxins to develop in the blood, bringing about a high rate of natural immunity. Not only children in sheltered schools and homes, but children and adults of small towns and rural districts, have been found to be far more susceptible than those in crowded cities who have this compensating 'contact immunity.'"

He concluded: "All the social and benevolent organizations representing the community conscience ought to rouse and help. We were helped in the early days, before the city appropriations began, by the Manhattan Chapter of the Red Cross and the Commonwealth Fund. The medical profession, private and public, needs backing and the public needs educating. Diphtheria is conquered. That is a certainty. It can be reduced to the status of smallpox. Wiped out. We have only to do it."

A remark of the young doctor at the Baby Health Station came to mind: "The superintendent of the New York City contagious diseases hospitals told me that he didn't get in more than twelve cases a year now of smallpox out of all New York."

Science has laid low that ancient enemy of man, destroyer of armies, bane of crusaders, kings, and peasants alike in the Middle Ages, and epidemic scourge in our own time. Its lance is now aimed at an even worse foe—diphtheria, strangler of childhood, nightmare of mothers. It is for all of us to determine the force of that blow.

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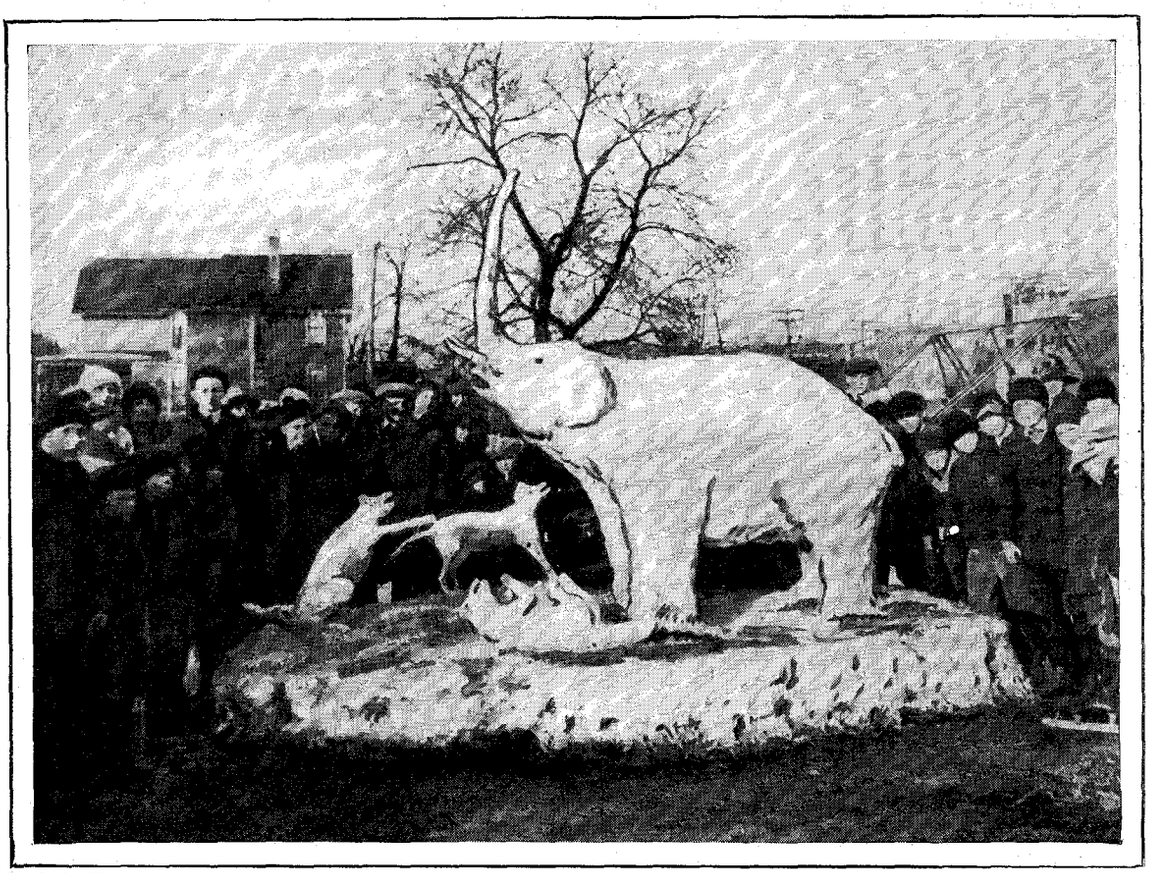
Would that most park statuary were of the same stuff!

Chicago Children Stage a Snow-Modeling Contest

This is the prize-winning design, "Elephant Attacked by Wolves," the award being made by Lorado Taft, the well-known sculptor



P. & A. Photos

P. & A. Photos

The Father of His Country Realistically Rendered in Snow

These Chicago children have been more daring in their realism than most artists, for they show even the ravages of the smallpox which left its effects on Washington's face after his attack by that disease in 1751

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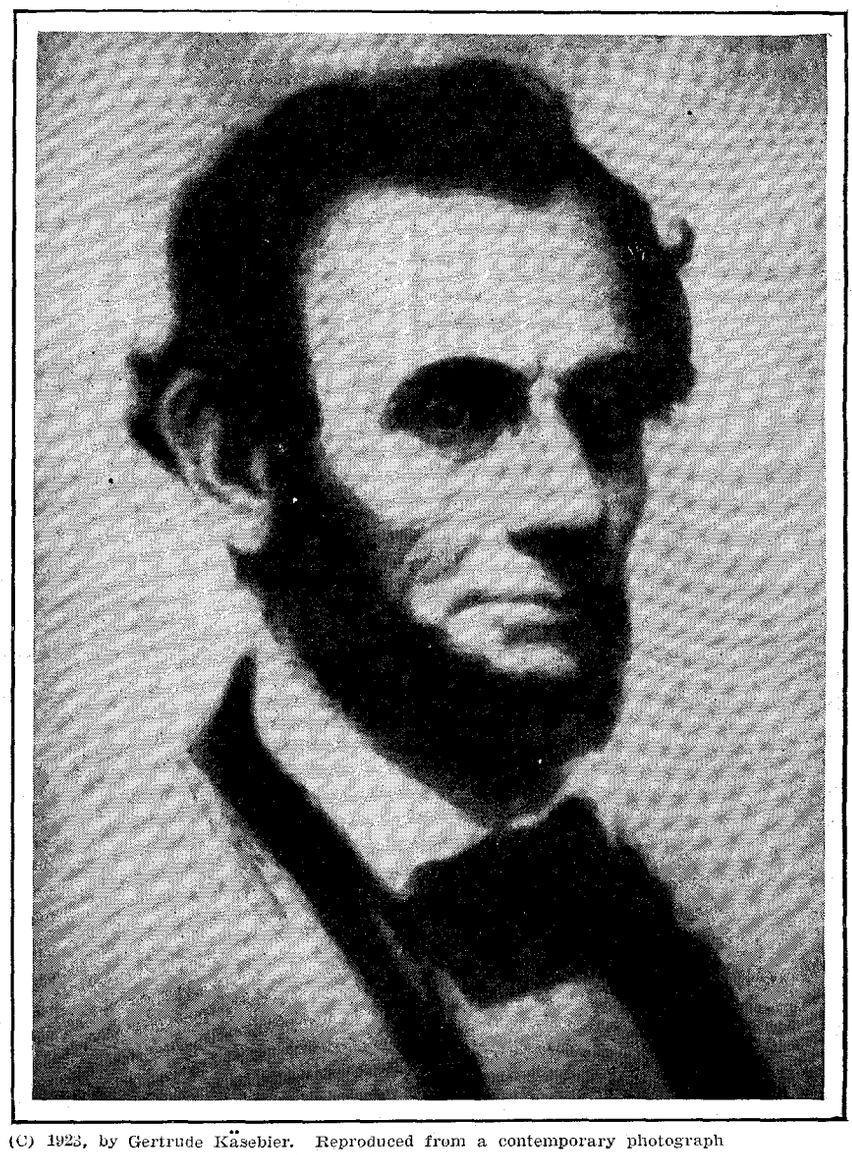
The Book Table

Lincoln—the Man

By David E. Lilienthal

SINCE the tragedy in Ford's Theater hundreds of volumes about Abraham Lincoln have been written. Every phase of his activities—as lawyer, orator, politician, war chieftain, statesman—have been treated exhaustively by writers of varying abilities over a period of almost sixty years. Yet, strange to relate, in all this mass of writing there is almost no authentic account of Lincoln the *man*. It is particularly fortunate that at a time when the process of apotheosis has gone far, the first careful research into the facts of the human side of Lincoln should, after a stupid suppression, be republished [1] and that a further product of the same research, but in more modern form, should come from the press.[2]



(C) 1923, by Gertrude Käsebier. Reproduced from a contemporary photograph

Abraham Lincoln

For sixteen years, as friends and partners, Abraham Lincoln and William H. Herndon shared the same dingy law office in Springfield. At the time of Lincoln's assassination Herndon probably knew more about him than any other individual. But, fortunately for posterity, Herndon did not immediately sit down to write a biography based solely on the knowledge acquired through this long association, extensive though that knowledge was. With an ardor born of his great devotion to his senior partner, but with the discrimination and the accuracy of a scientist, he set out to unearth the facts about Lincoln's early life, which for the most part were buried in obscurity or were entirely unknown. The thoroughness of his search and the years which he spent in the painstaking details of his task are amazing.

Less than a month after Lincoln's death Herndon went to Kentucky, where he interviewed every person who might by any chance possess any facts about Lincoln's boyhood in that State. From that time forward he talked with hundreds who had known Lincoln or had known his parents or associates; he carried on an extensive correspondence with Lincoln's relatives, with men who had employed him, with men who had worked side by side with him, with girls whom he had courted—all with extraordinary results. The log-cabin home, the nights spent over books before the fireplace, the shovel which served as a slate, the borrowed books, the fight with the bully, the tragic love affair with Anne Rutledge—these and the many other stories which are now so familiar would have been lost forever but for the foresight and the labors of William H. Herndon. It has been well said of him that "no other man lived who comprehended so thoroughly the great character [of Lincoln], who had dug so deeply and laid bare the springs of action, the motives that animated the clear head, brave heart, and strong right arm." In the early eighties he secured the assistance of Jesse W. Weik, then a recent college graduate, burning with a desire to devote himself to a study of Lincoln. Weik went over the ground covered by Herndon; he checked up on all his data and made important additions to the Herndon treasure of facts in a way that puts all Americans in his debt.

After more than twenty years of research and writing, Herndon's "The True Story of a Great Life" was finally published. Instead of receiving the universal approbation which its careful and thoroughgoing preparation amply warranted, the book was furiously attacked, and through the efforts of its critics soon forced from circulation. The reason for this hostile reception is not difficult to discover: Herndon, on the basis of well-authenticated evidence, had recorded the essential "humanness" of Lincoln the man, had pictured him joining in the

[1] The True Story of a Great Life. By William H. Herndon. Herndon's Lincoln Publishing Company, Springfield, Illinois. 3 vols. $10.

[2] The Real Lincoln. By Jesse W. Weik. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $4.

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rude, uncouth life of the backwoods, falling in love, planning his political career, arguing cases, important and trivial, before the courts, and so on. He had set down (and this seemed the chief cause for the storm) the facts as to Lincoln's ancestry, which established the illegitimacy of his mother. In short, Herndon had refused to deify his law partner, to picture him as the epitome of perfection, to idealize him. The "respectables" of the day brought pressure on Herndon to substitute an "expurgated" edition, but he refused so to dishonor the name of one who also had burned with a passion for truth. The heirs of Herndon have now taken up the work of republication. It is unlikely that at this day any such absurd suppression will be attempted.

Weik's book contains the new material which he has gathered in the thirty years since the Herndon "Life" first appeared. His primary purpose, however, was to work over the Herndon material, now in his possession, so as to improve on and fill the gaps left by the earlier book; to do this he felt, to use his own language, that "there should be more local color, more of the details of his [Lincoln's] personal history as revealed by his neighbors—in short, the doors of his office and of his home should be made to swing open and the light turned on so that we may indeed view him as a man." Weik has fortunately concentrated on the Lincoln of Springfield, not attempting to cover the entire span of his life. He reveals his stormy domestic life in the house on Eighth Street; he recounts what the neighbors saw and heard and thought of their distinguished townsman and his fiery wife; he sets out with graphic detail Lincoln's personal appearance, his habits of thought, his manner of reasoning, even the peculiar way in which he would eat an apple! In the fascinating minutiæ of every-day life "The Real Lincoln" is a valuable and intensely interesting contribution; it is in the development of this type of material that it represents a genuine advance over Herndon's work.

One of the most gratifying features of both Herndon and Weik's books is that neither has any theory about Lincoln to which they made the facts conform, no "interpretation" of his life to offer, no conclusion to draw, no moral to propound. They are both historians of the highest order—collectors of facts, urged on in their work by a deep love for the man whose humanity they have helped mightily to establish for all time.

Nothing can better illustrate the paucity of genuine biographical literature on Lincoln than a persual of the two latest books to be added to the already great store of "Lives."[3] Just why these books were published is difficult to tell, for they neither add a single fact nor improve in a single respect the form of expression found in the numerous Lincoln "biographies." The truth is that such books are really not biographies at all. They are largely an elaboration of their writers' reaction to the life and ideals of Abraham Lincoln, written in adulatory terms. Now, while the effect of Lincoln on Dr. Bissett and Dean Paradise and the numerous other interpreters and commentators may be interesting because it shows his power to stir the spirit and quicken the imagination of diverse types of men, yet most of us seek to know Lincoln himself, and are not content with such mere distillates.

The time is now ripe for our first great biography of Abraham Lincoln—a work which will do for Lincoln what Beveridge, for instance, has done for John Marshall. The great labors of Herndon and Weik in the period up to the departure for Washington, and the material gathered by Nicolay and Hay, covering the war period, have now laid the factual foundation. A word of advice from Boswell, the master biographer of them all, may well guide the man who will some day assume this heavy burden, and at the same time serve as a reproof to such enthusiastic but futile writers as the authors of these two last-mentioned books. In a letter to his lifelong friend William Temple, in 1788, Boswell said:

> Mason's "Life of Gray" is excellent because it is interspersed with letters which show us the *Man*. His "Life of Whitehead" is not a Life at all; for there is neither a letter nor a saying from first to last. I am absolutely certain that *my* mode of biography, which gives not only a *history* of Johnson's *visible* progress through the world, and his publications, but a *view* of his mind, in his letters and conversations, is the most perfect that can be conceived, and will be *more* of a *Life* than any work that has ever yet appeared.

[3] Lincoln, A Universal Man. By Clark P. Bissett. John Howell, San Francisco. $5. Lincoln, Democrat. By Frank I. Paradise. Small, Maynard & Co., Boston. $1.50.

The New Books

FICTION

TOLD BY AN IDIOT. By Rose Macaulay. Boni & Liveright, New York. $2.

Oftenest skipped outright, soonest forgotten when it is read, the dedication of a novel is rarely of importance. But when Miss Rose Macaulay dedicated "Potterism" "to the unsentimental precisians in thought who have, on this confused, inaccurate and emotional planet, no fit habitation," she did more than merely make a sympathetic literary gesture toward a particular intellectual group. She provided the exact phrase to describe her own attitude toward life and literature, and one which may be employed with equal fitness in eulogy or condemnation of her later work. One might well say:

"Miss Macaulay in her new novel, 'Told by an Idiot,' again shows herself the unsentimental precisian in thought. She is clear, convincing, accurate; but she is also hard, frosty, glittering, with no quality that makes for comfort, cheer, or inspiration as we turn from her pages back to life. Rather, she has lightly and wickedly tossed a pinch of grit into the works, regardless if in consequence her readers feel with more discouragement than usual how haltingly the wheels of civilization grind and jar and creak without, after all, really seeming to get anybody anywhere."

Another might put it:

"Once more Miss Rose Macaulay, disdaining the common appeal to the more or less mushy heart of the novel-reading public, has flung a gay and gallant challenge to its brains. Confident, clear-eyed, often wise, and always witty, this unsentimental precisian in thought unrolls the panorama of forty-five British years, from 1879 to our own day—Victorian years, Edwardian years, neo-Georgian years—with the various members of the Garden family ever in the foreground, and the author, pointer in hand, standing by to direct attention with a jab or a gesture to this truth or that as scene after scene glides past. A remarkable and immensely interesting achievement."

Both statements would be true.

In "Told by an Idiot" decades are made to live as vividly as characters; the reader receives an impression of time, change, and movement positively startling. National events, social changes, affecting the inconspicuous Gardens neither more nor less than they affect thousands of others, yet do affect them and find place in the narrative rightly and naturally, in a paragraph, page, or a chapter. A chapter describing the procession on the day of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee as seen through the eyes of the little girl, Imogen, is a triumph and a joy. It is extremely amusing, it is glowingly pictorial, and, half

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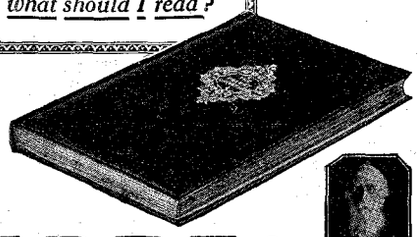

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despite the child's absurdities and half because of them, surprisingly it holds a thrill. Young Imogen is perhaps the most purely enjoyable figure in the book; it is a pity that the implacable precisian felt bound to let her grow up and deteriorate. The Gardens, old and young, are strongly and admirably drawn—poor Papa, the spiritual vagrant, trying one religion after another as if they were so many patent medicines; passive little Mama, with her hidden self; cool, clever, detached Rome; gay Vicky; serene and solid Una. We know them all and are glad to know them, even if their unemotional creator permits none of them to be quite lovable. Rome most nearly wins our heart, because we cannot help feeling a little of the author's accidentally leaked into her making.

If a novel of such exceptional power of penetration and presentation, such delightful humor and wit, such unfailing distinction of style, leaves after it a faint sense of dissatisfaction, it cannot well be with the achievement of the artist; surely Miss Macaulay has done all that she attempted. But precisians are few; those of us to whom, because of temperament or faith, life, with all its tragedies, futilities, and unreasonableness, is *not* as

A tale
Told by an idiot, all sound and fury
Signifying nothing,

though we may admire, applaud, and enjoy, may approve its keenest thrusts and indorse its most scathing criticisms of civilized society, taken in detail, yet we resent instinctively the total effect of brilliant belittlement.

BOOK OF BLANCHE (THE). By Dorothy Richardson. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. $2.

Too much emotion, too much music, and much too much surgery are to be found in "The Book of Blanche." The scene of most of the action is a hospital; the spiritual phenomena are blended indistinguishably with those of anæsthesia; there are occasional striking passages; but the fumes of ether do not form a literary atmosphere either pleasant or wholesome. This is a first novel by an American writer; she is to be distinguished from the English novelist, Dorothy M. Richardson.

PLASTIC AGE (THE). By Percy Marks. The Century Company, New York. $2.

This novel has been praised for its realistic treatment of a boy's college life, and it has also been ridiculed. It deserves some of the praise and a little of the ridicule. It sets forth the enormous seriousness with which college boys take their undergraduate clubs, their athletics, their fraternity dances, and their love affairs. The author does not take them too seriously, although he comes perilously near it at times. It could be imagined that some parents, upon reading "The Plastic Age," might cancel their sons' applications for college, and absolutely refuse permission to their daughters to attend college "proms." The profanity and the drinking are laid on thick, but some of the scenes are not only amusing but truthful. Petting parties and whisky-drinking flappers were not so prevalent at the austere university which we attended (at least not in our prehistoric time), but we can vouch for the light-hearted manner in which the talk went from poker to poetry—as described in this novel—and for the substantial accuracy of Mr. Marks's hilarious passage about the student who coached the others in English literature.

SUMMERTIME. By Denis Mackail. Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston. $2.

"Summertime," Mr. Mackail's new story, is at once light and leisurely, a comfortable combination more usual with English than with American novelists. Mr. Mackail writes with humor, but a mirthful mood never impels him to sprint, skip, prance, or otherwise accelerate his literary pace: he strolls. The reader, once having made up his mind that there really is no hurry, will find the company by the way amply entertaining. There are two especially nice heroines, provided with a likable hero apiece and one over. The extra one is so young, innocent, and absurd that he even, in a remote, restrained, and eminently British way, reminds us of the youthful heroes of our own Mr. Tarkington. A thoroughly agreeable book.

MUSIC, PAINTING, AND OTHER ARTS

CHINESE PAINTING, AS REFLECTED IN THE THOUGHT AND ART OF LI LUNG-MIEN, 1070–1106. By Agnes E. Meyer. Duffield & Co., New York. $10.

This beautiful book—admirable for its printing, illustration, and format—presents a serious study of Li Lung-mien, who is at least one of the greatest of Chinese painters. His philosophical background and intellectual life are discussed as a preliminary to the consideration of his art—the whole work attempting to show something of Chinese culture, and especially of Chinese painting. About a dozen of his paintings are reproduced with great delicacy. The author addresses herself to a learned audience, and her style is more profound than simple—she speaks to the expert and the critic.

POETRY

SEA SONGS AND BALLADS, 1917–22. By C. Fox Smith. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $1.75.

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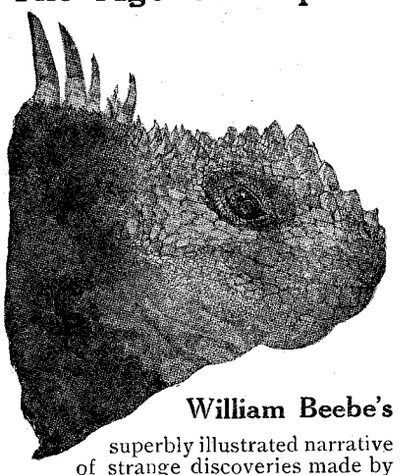

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The Pigeons of the Abbey, the pigeons of Saint Paul's,
That woo in windy niches of grey and grimy walls,
The pearl-grey dawns of London, his sky that gleams and glooms,
His stately smoky sunsets are in their changing plumes.

The saucy London sparrows, their Cockney chatter tells
Their parents nested surely in earshot of Bow Bells . . .
But oh! the London seagulls a-cruising up and down,
They're most like old-time seamen come back to London town.

Old salty swearing seadogs and tarry buccaneers,
With bacca quids and pigtails and earrings in their ears,
That spent their money handsome and took their ease ashore
In rowdy Ratcliff aleshops with sand upon the floor . . .

And bawled their old sea-ballads, and told their thumping lies,
In fearsome deep sea lingo to open landsmen's eyes,
And drained their brimming pewters, and spat into the tide,
In old shipboarded taverns by Wapping water-side . . .

And watched the busy wherries all plying with their fares,
From Globe, Jamaica, Wapping and Cherry Garden Stairs,
And the lighters and the barges a-passing to and fro
As they did on London River two hundred years ago.

Books Received

POETRY

BARBED WIRE AND WAYFARERS. By Edwin Ford Piper. The Macmillan Company, New York. $2.50.

DRAMA

FATHER AND THE BOYS; THE COLLEGE WIDOW; JUST OUT OF COLLEGE; THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN. By George Ade. Samuel French & Co., New York. 75c. each.

FAUST AND THE CITY; VASILISA THE WISE; THE MAGI. By A. V. Lunacharski. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $3.

TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION

ROUND THE WORLD TRAVELER (THE). By D. E. Lorenz. The Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. $5.

SPRING IN MOROCCO AND ALGIERS. By George W. Wickersham. Illustrated. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

HISTORY AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS ON UNITED STATES HISTORY. By the Arthur S. Clark Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

ECONOMICS AND ETHICS. By J. A. R. Marriott. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $5.

ECONOMICS OF FREEDOM (THE). By David Atkins. Duffield & Co., New York. $4.

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thing, and if we can invest to better advantage than the common run of people we have succeeded in our investment undertakings. The difficulty is, naturally, to be certain that we really have invested to better advantage than those who do not enjoy so large a return. The general rule is that the higher the yield of an investment, the less safe the principal; the problem, therefore, is to find an investment the principal of which is as safe as those investments which return a lower yield. To be more definite, the yield on high-grade bonds at the present time will average scarcely 5 per cent, and the object of our search is bonds equally high grade yielding more than 5 per cent. We think they can be found.

The oldest form of investment in the world is said to be the real estate mortgage. It is still a popular form of investment, and no doubt it always will be. Just now, however, the method of investing in this form of security is frequently different from what it was in the days of our fathers; from the standpoint of the investor, it is infinitely simpler, and every indication points to the fact that it is better too.

In the old days the man who loaned money on land or on land and buildings had to see to it personally that a search was made of the title, and be sure that the mortgagor was in undisputed possession; perhaps he would have to hire a lawyer to make certain that the bond and mortgage as finally executed were in proper form; he would have to keep in touch with the borrower in order to assure himself that proper repairs were made to the buildings, and the premises not allowed to run down, and their value become impaired; also, he had to make certain that taxes on the mortgaged property were paid regularly when due; and, finally, he had to collect the interest due him—not always an easy task by any means. In addition, he was obliged to use his own judgment as to the value of the property, as to how much he should loan on it, and how much it would bring at a forced sale under foreclosure proceedings.

Nowadays all these important and bothersome details are looked after by companies organized and conducted for the express purpose of loaning money on real estate and selling bonds secured by the property on which the loan is made. Briefly, their method of procedure is:

These companies loan on income-producing properties—hotels, apartment-houses, warehouses, and office buildings. The amount loaned is usually large—larger than could conveniently be advanced by an individual. The company advances the amount agreed upon—customarily about sixty per cent of the appraised value of the property—takes a mortgage for that amount, and then issues and sells bonds, all secured by this one mortgage. Every purchaser of one of these bonds has a share in the mortgage equal to the face value of his bond—$100, $500, or $1,000, as the case may be. In practically every instance these bonds mature serially; that is to say, a certain percentage of the total outstanding fall due and are paid off each year. This means that the mortgage is being regularly reduced to counteract any depreciation in the value of the property, and thus the security for the bonds still outstanding remains proportionately the same. As a matter of fact, the security is probably higher, for the bond house inspects the mortgaged property regularly, and insists that the premises be maintained in excellent repair. Further, the bond house is extremely careful about having the insurance kept up to an amount equal at least to the face value of the outstanding bonds.

The bond houses dealing in this class of investments have at their disposal the best of advice; they command the services of lawyers, real estate experts, engineers, and appraisers. It is not such an easy matter for a borrower to obtain a loan from them, for they must be satisfied as to every detail of the enterprise before they will consent to become a party to the transaction. They do everything in their power to guard against mistakes of any sort, and the long and unblemished record of the leading concerns specializing in this kind of bonds bears witness to the fact that their care has had the desired result. Further, the fact that they can advertise a record of many years without loss to any investor undoubtedly makes them doubly careful in all new transactions about not having this record tarnished.

Real estate mortgage bonds are in demand by institutions which must, from the very nature of their businesses, be extremely careful about investing their funds in the best of securities. Life insurance companies, for instance, are always heavy purchasers of these bonds.

There is possibly one disadvantage about these bonds. There is a narrow market for them. Once purchased, the buyer should plan to hold them until they fall due and are paid off. On the other hand, the very fact that they are not listed on the exchanges and freely bought and sold like so many other kinds of bonds is in a sense an advantage. They do not fluctuate in price and the owner always knows where he stands financially; and, if he does want to sell, the house from which he purchased will

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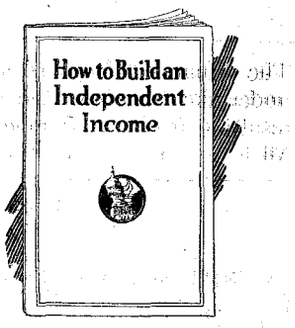

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usually buy his bond back from him. What is more, the practice of having the bonds mature serially enables the purchaser to choose early maturities, and his capital need not be tied up for any greater length of time than suits his desires.

As a matter of fact, it is not generally considered prudent for any man to invest all his money in one kind of security. If he will keep a certain proportion of his assets liquid, he need not worry if others cannot be so readily converted into cash. And when a bond is not quickly salable there is usually compensation in some form or other for the owner. In the case of real estate mortgage bonds this compensation consists in a higher than average yield. These are the bonds, therefore, that we had in mind in the earlier part of this article—bonds which compare with the best as to safety of principal and assured income, but which enable the man trying for better than the average yield to realize his ambition.

Millions of dollars' worth of real estate mortgage bonds are now sold annually in this country. Their sale makes possible the construction of buildings which otherwise could not be financed, and would therefore never exist. At the same time they afford thousands of investors an opportunity to purchase high-grade investments which from the standpoint of safety rank with the best and from the standpoint of yield return considerably more than those bonds which rank equally with them when it comes to safety of principal and assured income.

The interesting question of why there is such a wide variation in the rates of interest on these bonds is something we shall discuss and attempt to explain in a later article.

Bank Services

By William Leavitt Stoddard

My earliest picture of a bank president is that of a benevolent old gentleman who sat in a comfortable chair behind a mahogany desk in the front window of the First National in my home town. The space he occupied was large enough for his desk, a table, and several chairs; it was furnished with a rug and "trimmings." From the street you could see, as on a stage, whatever scene was playing in this office. I observed, as a boy, that the president was rarely alone. He had visitors, sometimes singly, sometimes in a group; rough farmers and lumbermen, local merchants, ministers and school-teachers, widows. He seemed to know everybody, and everybody knew him and sought his counsel. His bank grew and prospered.

Later, in a larger city, I had my first contact with a metropolitan bank. The president and the officers were invisible. Nobody and nothing were visible but imposing floormen and clerks behind bronzed bars. I disliked to go into that bank.

That was twenty years ago. Since then an enormous change has come over the metropolitan banks. Their presidents and officers are getatable. They are human. They are more like the old First National president; they seem to like to know you and to help you in your financial affairs, or lack of them.

All this is introductory to the statement that the modern bank in its relationships to the community is surprisingly similar to the old country-city bank. The officers may not sit in the front windows, but they are accessible to the customers. Experts, many of them, in their special fields of credit, financing, corporate reorganization, trustee and transfer work, they have, as members of an organization, essentially the same function of adviser and friend as the old-time chief executive of the bank.

Does the public generally realize this? Do you, for example, the average depositor and occasional borrower at a bank, realize what your bank can do for you—not at the present moment, perhaps, but at some time during this year or next?

The trust company of to-day, sometimes called the "department store of finance," as well as most of the National banks, offer a variety of services to their customers which it is well to understand.

There is no need to describe the ordinary checking account service, which is practically uniform throughout the country, with the important exception of interest and balances required. In order to attract deposits, many banks will take accounts from anybody without restriction. It is a well-known fact that unless the average balance of an account is over, say, $200 the cost of the account to the bank is likely to be more than the bank's profit. This cost includes check-books and printing, bookkeeping, and the making of periodical statements. One trust company with a scientific analysis department estimates that it loses about $4 a year on every active account with an average balance under $50. Hence the larger banks, when an account is opened, stipulate that the balance shall be at all times in the neighborhood of $200 or $300, and agree to pay interest on balances over $500.

I mention this phase of the matter because it is likely that the banks will more and more make it a requirement either that the average balance shall be higher than the low mark of a great many of them to-day or that the customer shall permit a charge, say, of one dollar a month, to pay the cost of his checking service. The reader will recall that fifteen or twenty years ago the use of checks was nothing like as widespread as it is now. The increase has been enormous, and the convenience to the possessor of a checking account very great indeed.

A list of the main services of a trust company or a National bank to the average customer would be somewhat as follows:

1. Accepts checking accounts.
2. Accepts special time deposits and issues certificates of deposit.
3. Lends money on collateral.
4. Gives service in collecting checks, drafts, notes, bonds, coupons, etc.
5. Serves as "financial secretary" for persons of means, and also for

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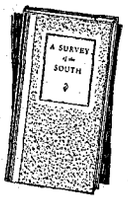

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11. Takes charge of customers' mail, forwarding it when engaged in travel.
12. Buys and sells stocks and bonds either through its own organization or else through a broker, on order.
13. Provides safe-deposit facilities.
14. Offers, through its officers, information and counsel on a great number of subjects—loans, mortgages, business credit, and so forth.

To go into detail to describe these services would require many pages. Every bank issues one or more pamphlets in which these services are outlined; but the best way to find out about them is to inquire at your bank. In a very real sense of the term, bankers are voluntary and unpaid teachers of the public in a realm of learning which is only too often regarded with as much awe as were medicine and the black arts not so very many years ago. If you are a depositor at a bank, make it a point to get acquainted with one or more of its officers, for the time may come when something he has told you, some service which his institution can do for you, will be worth a great deal.

The bank of to-day is a much more elaborate institution than the bank of twenty-five or fifty years ago. It is physically larger; its resources are greater; its contacts are broader and more far-reaching. Yet, as a matter of plain fact, it is not quite true to say that the modern bank offers a variety of brand-new services, for most of the services are as old as banking itself. What the modern bank does do is to combine effectively under one roof a large number of services, all of which relate directly to money, property, finance. And in thus combining these services the bank is not so very far ahead of the old-time individual banker who, out of the wealth of his experience, protected those who profited by his counsel from the sharks which then, as to-day, preyed on the ignorance of the average person—educated as well as uneducated—about the care of money.

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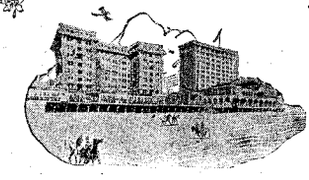

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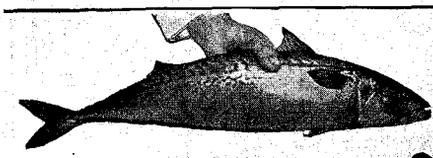

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WANTED, for the Settlement Music School of Philadelphia, a registrar, resident position. Applicant must have training in social work and office experience. Should have ability to carry details, good memory, and should enjoy meeting people. This position offers opportunities for constructive work to adaptable person. Address The Settlement Music School, 416 Queen St., Southwark Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

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MIDDLE-aged gentleman of education and refinement seeks position as companion, secretary, or practical nurse. Best of references. American. No objection to traveling. 4,710, Outlook.

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FRENCH lady, young, university graduate, pianist, head of French department of prominent school in Virginia, wishes work for the summer as teacher, tutor, or companion. 4,707, Outlook.

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By the Way

At the Commencement of the Southern Industrial Institute, in Alabama, says the "Industrial Student" of that school, a man was present who had four children in the school. The principal called on him for a few remarks. "A lean, lank type of man he was, and there he stood. He looked now this way and now that, and finally said, gazing fondly but sorrowfully at his children: 'Mr. President, *I* can't read nary word.'" Then he sat down. The orator of the occasion was the head of the State Bar Association, a finely educated man and an eloquent speaker. On rising to begin his address he said that whatever he might have had in mind to say had gone from him when he heard the pathetic confession of his illiterate friend. The few words which that friend had uttered, he said, constituted the most impressive address in favor of education that he had ever listened to.

From "Punch:"

Maid—"I wonder, ma'am, if you'd be so good as to do me a little favor, ma'am?"

Mistress—"Certainly, if possible. What is it?"

Maid—"Well, ma'am, my young man is at the back door. Could you hold him in conversation for a few minutes while I run upstairs and put on a touch of powder?"

The deepest hole in the world is not in Geraes, Brazil, a subscriber writes in correction of a quoted statement in this column. It is located in Marion County, West Virginia, near the city of Fairmont; its depth is 7,579 feet, and it descends from an altitude of about 1,000 feet. The second deepest hole in the earth is in Harrison County, West Virginia; depth, 7,355 feet. These holes were drilled for natural gas.

From the "Country Gentleman:"

A dollar bill is sweeter far than any rose beneath the sun. A dollar has a hundred cents, the rose—but one.

The methods of "wizards" in relieving people of their bank-rolls are described in "America at Work," and they furnish a warning to banks and their patrons: "A wizard is a pickpocket. It takes three men to pick a pocket right. Such an assembly is called a 'mob.' A 'mob' frequently starts from New York and makes a circuit of the country. The method is as follows in some cases: Wizard No. 1 stations himself at the corner of the street. Wizard No. 2 stands at the bank door as if waiting for a friend. Wizard No. 3 goes into the bank and watches you, John Jones, draw $500 at the paying teller's window. He locates the pocket into which you have put the roll. Every pocket is numbered, and he flashes the number by holding up his fingers to the wizard at the door. You pass out of the bank. The man at the door knows just where you have the cash. If you get on the street car the man just ahead of you is the man who stood on the corner and the man just behind is the man at the door. If you merely go down the street, the first crowd you get into the three men surround you and manage to fall against you in such a way that you do not feel the hand of Wizard No. 2 as he extracts your wallet. The same thing happens on the street car."

The following advertisement appears in a New York daily paper. The advertiser asks for correspondents of the Jack London-Rex Beach type, but probably he would answer inquiries from such men as William McFee or Joseph Conrad:

> Master mariner, writer, delineator, real sea tragedies, wishes to get in touch with a clever, undaunted person of real literary ability (the Jack London-Rex Beach type); purpose, to collaborate real great disasters; fortune right party. Address ——.

Here is another unusual advertisement. It appeared in the "radio sections" of several New York newspapers, signed by a well-known manufacturing firm:

> Burglary! Warning to Radio Dealers! Burglars broke into our plant Thursday night and stole 1,000 Defective Tubes. Needless to say, it was a disappointing haul. Should any one try to pass off any of these rejected tubes on you, notify the police at once. The burglars were "stung," but don't let them sting you.

Carlsbad Cavern in New Mexico, which was recently set aside by President Coolidge as a National Monument, may, when it is fully explored, outclass even the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky and the Luray Cavern of Virginia as a first-class natural wonder. It contains, according to the "National Geographic Magazine," a single vast apartment, known as the Big Room, more than half a mile in length and many hundreds of feet in width, while its height in places exceeds two hundred feet. This is only one of a multitude of astounding features in the new National Monument. Its name, somewhat unfortunately chosen as associating it with Europe instead of America, is taken from a small town a few miles distant from the cave.

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